



Partners:-

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## **EQUINE EMERGENCIES AND BASIC FIRST AID ADVICE**

### **WOUNDS**

#### ***What we need to know***

- Where the wound is, leg, body, joint
- How recent the wound is
- Size
- Extent of lameness, swelling, discharge, heat and pain

#### ***What to do***

- If bleeding, then apply pressure to stop bleeding
- Clean with dilute hibiscrub
- Apply light dressing- wound gel, melolin, Soffban +/- gamgee and vetrap

### **COLIC**

#### ***Clinical Signs***

- Scenario A- quiet, reduced amount of faeces, reluctant to eat.
- Scenario B- sweating, rolling, pawing ground, lying down

#### ***What we need to know***

- What is the horse doing
- How long has it been behaving like this
- When did you last see the horse as being normal
- Age, routine change, special considerations- in foal, stallion, any other medication

#### ***What to do***

- Ideally put the horse in a stable, removing sharp objects/ buckets
- Keep out of the way if violent behaviour- DO NOT GET HURT
- Walk horse if it's going to get cast.
- Monitor

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## **CHOKER**

### ***Clinical Signs***

- Cough, exaggerated swallowing effort, discharge food down nose, holding head and neck extended, +/- distress.

### ***What we need to know***

- What horse has eaten
- Age
- Previous episodes of choke
- If distressed

## **RESPIRATORY DISTRESS**

### ***Clinical signs***

- Flared nostril breathing
- Abdomen moving in and out rapidly
- May be stood quietly and not eating

### ***What to do***

- Leave quietly and contact the vet

## **SEVERE LAMENESS**

### ***Clinical signs***

- May be unable to bear weight on a leg
- May be an obvious fracture
- Hot foot
- Wound over joint with yellow fluid coming from it
- Sweating and distress

### ***What to do***

- Leave quietly
- If you suspect tying-up (Sudden stiffness/pain usually after exercise) then rug up and leave quietly
- Call the vet

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## LAMINITIS

### **Clinical Signs**

- Acute sweating, tremors, unable to move/ stand, weight shifting, rocking back weight, blowing
- Less acute/ chronic- reluctance to move, weight shifting, rocking back weight

### **What to tell us and do**

- What horse is doing
- Put in stable on deep bed of shavings, reduce food

## EYES

- Call us if eye is closed, swollen, painful, red and discharge from eye
- Put in dark stable
- DO NOT put anything in the eye prior to a vet examining it

## URTICARIA

### **Clinical Signs**

- Raised skin lumps over the body
- Lumps usually soft and putty-like, they may be warm and painful
- Horse may or may not show distress

### **What to do**

- Remove rugs which reduces the skin temperature and will reduce the size of the lumps
- Cold hose
- Call vet if horse distressed or painful

TEMPERATURE	38.0C {100.5F}
PULSE	30 - 40
RESPIRATION	8 - 10 at rest

**ANY QUERIES CALL HOOK NORTON VETS ON 01608 730085**

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