

Care of Your Mare Through Pregnancy

If you have gone to the expense and trouble of getting your mare in foal this year, the last thing you would wish for is for her to lose the foal with an abortion. There are many different factors which can lead to abortion but the most common infectious cause in the UK at present is Equine Herpes Virus (EHV).

Thankfully, it is possible to protect your mare against EHV by vaccinations given in the 5th, 7th and 9th months of her pregnancy. The cost of each vaccination is £24.53. Each winter and spring, we tend to see mares that have lost their foals due to EHV and it is all the more heartbreaking when you know it could have easily been prevented.

Each spring, we also see mares which were scanned in foal the year before but have failed to grow bigger in the belly and are suspected of no longer being pregnant. An ultrasound scan often confirms the owner's suspicions. To ensure this doesn't happen to you, we advise a "check" scan at around 100 days of pregnancy then monitoring your mare carefully for any signs of ill

Half Price Visits - Oct to Dec 2008

Oct 2008	Nov 2008	Dec 2008	Area	Postcode of Stables
14 th	11 th	19 th	Darwen, Tockholes, Hoddlesden	BB3,
1 st & 17 th	5 th & 21 st	3 rd & 19 th	Accrington, Oswaldtwistle, Church, Huncoat	BB5
22 nd	19 th	15 th	Ribble Valley West(Mellor, Clayton le Dale)	BB2
8 th	12 th	10 th	Ribble Valley East (Clitheroe, and Gisburn)	BB7
13 th & 27 th	10 th & 24 th	8 th & 22 nd	Burnley, Brierfield, Barrowford, Biercliffe,	BB9, BB10, BB11, BB12
16 th	20 th	18 th	Rawtenstall, Haslingden, Waterfoot, Rossendale	BB4
7 th	4 th	2 nd	Great Harwood, Rishton, Clayton-le-Moors, Blackburn	BB6, BB1
9 th	13 th	11 th	East Preston	PR3
28 th	25 th	30 th	Ramsbottom, Edenfield, Bury and Rochdale	BL0, BL9 / 8 OL11/13

Please note: The reduced charge applies to visits between 9am and 4pm which have been booked at least 2 days in advance. Visits will be arranged on a first come first served basis and some dates may be booked up well in advance..



ALDINGTON
Equine Vets Ltd

*The Only Veterinary Practice in Lancashire
Dedicated Entirely to Horses*

Autumn Newsletter

Wet Weather Problems

This summer's unseasonably wet weather has created problems normally seen in mid winter. We have seen a large number of mud rash and rain scald cases, in some instances, with serious secondary complications such as lymphangitis. If you are still turning your horses out regularly, take precautions by using barrier creams or powder. If you are going to wash legs down after turn out, use warm water and dry them thoroughly afterwards.



One big concern over the coming months will be the shortage of haylage and in particular, hay. In order to conserve forage stocks, you may well need to feed a greater proportion of short fibre (Chop or chaff). Particular care needs to be taken with ponies prone to laminitis. Any dietary changes need to be made gradually. Overall fibre consumption should not be allowed to fall below 1% of your horse's bodyweight (as dry matter of fibre). If you are concerned about feeding this autumn, please feel free to contact us for advice.

Tel 01254 888600

www.equine-vet.co.uk

Practice News

We are delighted to announce that our receptionist Emily gave birth to her first daughter, Martha, in July.

David may not be so pleased to announce that he reached the ripe old age of 40 this month.

The practice has a commitment to continually improve our service by investing in further veterinary training and new equipment. In the last month three of our four vets (David, Juliette and Adam) have attended courses with topics including dentistry, stallion infertility and back problems. We have also purchased new dental equipment including further dental picks, rasps and a specialised diamond burr for treating gaps between teeth where food becomes trapped



David is continuing to write monthly veterinary articles for Horse Scene Magazine as their "Vet On The Scene". Copies of the magazine are available free from our surgery. The veterinary topic for October is Tendon and Ligament injuries.

At Last, An Effective, Easy to Administer Wormer

New EquiMax apple flavour tablets can be fed as a treat or mixed with feed. In trials, over 95% of horses ate them. The tablets should prove very useful for horses which are difficult to dose with paste. EquiMax is very effective against roundworms and tapeworms and is safe to use in pregnant mares and foals from two weeks old.

Advice Via E-Mail

If you require advice that is not urgent or if you have any questions or queries on the services we offer, e-mail is a great way to contact us. Vets are often busy during the day dealing with visits and patients. E-mail allows us to deal with queries during brief gaps and in the evening. You can contact us by completing the enquiry form on our website or via info@equine-vet.co.uk You can direct your e-mail to a specific member of staff by their first name: david@equine-vet.co.uk or ally@equine-vet.co.uk

Improved Insurance Cover for Older Horses

We strongly recommend insuring all horses for vets' fees. The average cost of a colic operation is now over £3000 and all horses are potentially at risk. If your horse is not insured, have you thought what you would do if he had an attack of colic where his only chance of survival was with an operation? With insurance cover, you only have to find the excess (usually around £120) and any livery or transport costs.

One problem with insurance has been that once horses reach 18 years old, insurance policies would only cover them for accident and not illness. Petplan has now updated their cover to include illness as well as injury for horses up to 25 years of age provided they were insured with Petplan before they reached 20. For more advice and information on insurance policies, follow the links from our website www.equine-vet.co.uk

Look Out For Sarcoids

We have seen a large number of horses with sarcoids in the past few months. We often find early sarcoids at routine health checks prior to vaccinations. The earlier sarcoids are identified, the better they are to treat and the less likely the horse is to develop any more.



We advise checking your horse in bright sunlight (or using a torch) regularly for any sign of lesions. These are most common on the areas where flies tend to bite (Under the belly, on the inner thighs, the sheath in geldings, between the front legs and around the face). Sarcoids take many different forms and can appear as anything from a small hairless area of skin to a firm nodule.

If you suspect your horse may have a sarcoid, please call us for advice. In some cases we may be able to give advice if you send good quality photographs to us by e-mail. If you would like to know more about sarcoids and their treatment, David has recently written a magazine article on the subject, copies of which are available from our office.

Foal Registrations and Half Price Microchipping

Don't forget that all foals born in 2008 must be registered and passported by 31st December. To register and passport your foal, you should first obtain a registration form for the society you would like to register them with, then contact us to arrange for the identification section to be completed. Our special offer of £14.69 for microchipping continues until the end of September. Foals over 6 months old can have their first flu and tetanus vaccination done at the same time if required.