

Equus Veterinary Service, P.C.

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Equine Vital Signs

Adult:

Heart Rate 30-40 beats/minute
Respiratory Rate 8-15 breaths/minute
Temperature 99-101.5°F

Foal:

Heart Rate 70-120 beats/minute
Respiratory Rate 20-40 breaths/minute
Temperature 99-102°F

Vaccine Recommendations

Core Vaccines:

Yearly

- Tetanus
- Eastern/Western Encephalomyelitis (Spring)
- West Nile (Spring)
- Rabies

Every 6 mo.

- Flu/Rhino

Risk Based Vaccines:

Yearly

- Intranasal Strangles
- Intranasal Influenza

Every 6 mo.

- Potomac Horse Fever

Contact Equus Veterinary Service for foal and pregnant mare vaccines.

Practical Horse Information

1. "1, 2, 3 Rule" — Newborn foals should be standing by 1 hour and nursing by 2 hours after birth. The mare's placenta should pass by 3 hours post foaling.
2. Start annual dental exams by 1 year of age. Most horses require yearly teeth floating and dental maintenance.
3. Contact Equus for Information about deworming your horse using our Strategic Deworming Plan.
4. Feeding 3 quarts of wheat bran (mixed into a mash with warm water) once weekly during cold weather may help prevent impaction colics.
5. All eye injuries or abnormalities require immediate veterinary attention.
6. When cleaning wounds, use 2% Chlorhexidine solution (Nolvasan) diluted as follows: 25cc Nolvasan to 1 quart water or 1 teaspoon Nolvasan to 1 cup water.
7. Grass sugars (carbohydrates) are lowest in the pasture from 3-10 AM. Any turnout of horses at risk for laminitis should be done during this time and avoid afternoon grazing.
8. Make all feed changes slowly over 10-14 days, even with new shipments of the same hay.
9. Feed at least 70% of your horse's diet as forage (hay or pasture).
10. Grain meals should be divided into at least 2-3 feedings per day to avoid digestive problems.