

Wright & Morten Equine Newsletter



www.wmvets.co.uk

December 2020

Equine Office Festive Opening Hours

Open Christmas Eve 8.00am - 3.00pm

Closed Christmas Day, Boxing Day
and Sunday 27th December

Open Monday 28th to Wednesday 30th
December as usual

Open New Year's Eve 8.00am - 3.00pm

Closed New Year's Day

Open from Monday 4th January as usual

**As always we are operating a 24 hours
a day emergency service over all of the
festive period. Emergency visits can still
be arranged using our normal number
01260 280800.**



We wish all
our clients
a very Merry
Christmas and a
Happy
New Year.



**We also want to say a BIG thank you
to you all for working with us this
year in these unprecedented times:**

**For following our protocol/answering
our questions:**

- for social distancing
- for wearing masks
- for trusting us to treat your pony/
horse from a distance
- for being honest with us, and self
isolating as required
- for providing hand washing and
sanitizing facilities

It has been a challenging year for everyone, however we have done everything in our power to continue to give your equines and yourselves the best possible care and treatment, and thank you for your part in this.

Happy Christmas

What a year it's been! In some ways it's been the longest year on record, yet in others we can't believe it's Christmas again! Whilst we aren't able to celebrate in the way that we would like to, we will still be getting into the Christmas Spirit with Christmas Jumper day in aid of Save the Children on 11th December. (Here's a flash back to last year!) **Roll on 2021! Stay safe everyone, and Happy Christmas!**



Welcome to our New Team Member

We'd like to welcome Lisa, our new addition to our office team. Lisa joined us at the beginning of November, and I am sure many of you will have spoken to her already. Lisa has several years experience working at an equine vets, so is used to dealing with the challenges this faces! Lisa is a horse owner herself and has two Welsh cobs which she shows at County, her biggest achievement to date is winning at Horse Of The Year Show!

I am sure you will all join us in welcoming her to the team, and as she settles in to her new role.

What3words?

Have you downloaded this yet? It's a fantastic system and will really help us to find your yard/field/horse especially in an emergency. Don't forget to let us know what your what3words are when you ring to make an appointment. This will be really helpful for our vets especially for hard to find yards/stables on big yards/field locations!



Impaction Colic

What is an impaction colic?

An impaction colic occurs when digested material builds up in a part of the horse's gut and causes an obstruction. The passage of any further digested food is blocked and with time the blocked material becomes dehydrated.

It commonly occurs at specific parts of the horse's gut where the lumen naturally narrows.

Why does it occur?

Commonly an impaction colic occurs due to a change in management of the horse.

Dehydration, inactivity and altered gut motility are all risk factors. Classically at the start of winter we start stabling our horses for increasing lengths of time, exercising them less and altering their diets to contain a larger volume of hay/haylage which is much drier than grass. All these changes can increase a horse's risk of an impaction colic. For the same reasons horses on box rest should be monitored closely for signs of impaction colic.

What are the clinical signs?

- Smaller volume of faeces or no faeces passed
- Drier faeces
- Reduced appetite
- Colic signs including pawing, flank watching, restlessness, increased lying time.

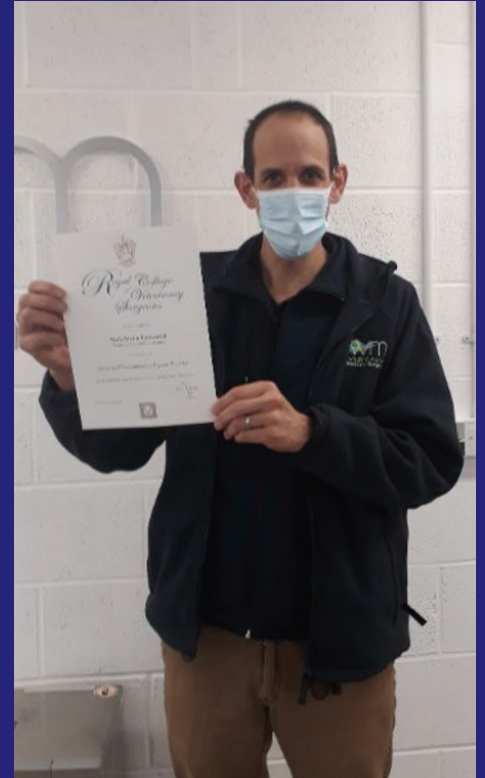
How can we reduce the risk of our horse getting an impaction colic?

- Ensure ample fresh clean water is available at all times
- Provide a salt lick in the stables to encourage water intake
- If facilities allow turnout as much as possible throughout the winter, or if your horse has to be stabled for long periods of time try in hand walking them regularly.
- Soak hay to increase water intake.
- Feed small sloppy feeds to increase water intake and stimulate gut motility.
- Feed several small feeds throughout the day rather than 2 larger feeds morning and evening.
- Monitor the number of faeces your horse passes in a set period of time e.g. overnight. Take note if the consistency appears to change e.g. firmer, softer.

For any more information, advice or if you have any concerns about your horse please call us on 01260 280800.

Mark Tabachnik

Good news this month, Mark has been re-awarded his Advanced Practitioner in Equine Practice for a further 5 years! Congratulations Mark.



Autumn/Winter Worming

Are you prepared for the challenge of Encysted Small Redworm?

When did you last worm your horse or carry out a faecal worm egg count? Now is the time coming into Autumn to be thinking about targeting Encysted Small Redworm. Small Redworm can encyst/hibernate in the gut wall throughout the year- especially in Autumn and Winter. Sudden mass emergence in the spring can result in gut damage which can cause Diarrhoea and colic and can be fatal.

We can target these wormers with Equest® or Equest Pramox®.

At Wright & Morten we offer strategic worming plans which are tiered to suit every budget and worm management option. By taking out one of strategic worm plans your horse or pony's yearly worming program will be managed by one of our highly trained Equine nurses who are also qualified Animal Health Advisors (SQP'S). They are on hand to discuss your testing results and prescribe wormers included in the plans throughout the year. The yearly programme includes one of the Equest® wormers so now is an excellent opportunity to take out a plan.

Bronze plan	£50	Silver plan	£90	Gold Plan	£125
2 x faecal worm egg counts		3 x Faecal worm egg counts		3 x Faecal worm egg counts	
Equest Pramox		Equisal saliva test (tapeworm)		Equisal Saliva test (Tapeworm test)	
		Equest/ Equest Pramox		Encysted Red worm blood test	
		Wormers as required following wec results		Equest or Equest Pramox if required	
				Wormers as required following wec's	



We are also offering discounts on larger yards for Faecal worm counts-

1 x wec £10 each. 5-9 wec's £9.00 each. 10 + wec's £7.50 each by prior arrangement depending on quantity.

Please call the clinic on 01260 280800 if you wish to take up a plan or require any worming advice.

EQUINE CLINIC

Somerford Park, Holmes Chapel Road, Somerford, Cheshire, CW12 4SW

Tel: 01260 280800 Email: somerford@wmvets.co.uk

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