

Wright & Morten Equine Newsletter



www.wmvets.co.uk

January 2021

The Small Print

We would just like to make everyone aware that we have recently changed our terms and conditions, they can be found on our website www.wmvets.co.uk, please familiarise yourself with them and also the terms at the bottom of our invoices.

Also a little reminder that we ask for all zone appointments to be paid for either on the day or in advance, this can be done easily over the phone by card payment or via our website. Please be aware we will be asking that all dental zone appointments pay a £20 deposit to secure the booking.

If you have any questions regarding payments or our terms of payment, please contact the practice on 01260 280800, where a member of staff will be happy to discuss this with you.

TERMS AND
CONDITIONS



Petplan Awards 2021

The Petplan Veterinary and Animal Charity Awards 2021 are now open for nominations. These awards recognise the veterinary profession, either as a practice, or a member of the team who you feel may have gone above and beyond to help your horses.

Gemma has already been nominated (twice!) for Support Staff of the Year! If you do want to nominate any of team do please follow the link below <https://www.petplanvet.co.uk/veterinary.../veterinary-awards>.



Christmas Spirit

Christmas Jumper Day

Here is some socially distanced photos of the team and their dogs with Christmas Jumpers on for Save the Children Christmas Jumper day on 11th December.



Bake Off

We recently had our Sweet and Savoury bake off. Gemma was our tasting judge and had a lot to taste including fairy cakes, mince pies, chocolate logs, cheesecake, tiffin and pigs in blankets sausage rolls. The results are in: **1st was Eadie with her Nutella chocolate tiffin, 2nd Lou P with her Bailey's chocolate Tiffin and 3rd was Nicola with her pigs in blankets sausage rolls!** Great effort from everyone in the clinic... we certainly rolled out of here that night!



Safeguarding antibiotics now and for the future

European Antibiotic Awareness Day is held on 18th November each year. As part of this day the British Equine Veterinary Association BEVA (which has developed the protect ME antimicrobial initiative) is calling on owners to support vets efforts to reduce the risk of antimicrobial resistance by better understanding where and when antibiotics are needed.

Antimicrobial resistance is an emerging clinical problem that is recognised internationally as one of the largest threats to human and animal health. All major health and veterinary organisations are working to try and limit the development of resistance so that effective antimicrobials can be maintained for use in clinical practice.

At Wright and Morten, we support the rational use of antibiotics in horses, and proactively support the BEVA protect ME initiative which we are implementing in our practice.

Antibiotic drugs are essential for the treatment of BACTERIAL diseases in humans and animals. To ensure they remain effective all healthcare professionals are working together to limit the further spread of antibiotic resistance. This occurs when bacteria mutate their genetic code so antibiotics can no longer kill them. Some bacteria can then pass this acquired resistance to other bacteria either in the same animal, in other animals or even in you!

- Every time an antibiotic is used there is the potential for bacteria to become resistant to that drug.
- Every time an antibiotic is used that is NOT ESSENTIAL the risk of resistance outweighs any potential benefit of the drugs.
- It is vital that antibiotics are used very carefully to ensure they are available to help our horses for as long as possible.

Why is resistance such a problem?

Once bacteria develop resistance they will no longer be controlled by that drug and all drugs in the same category will be ineffective. There have been no new types of antibiotic in decades, just a slow improvement of the existing ones. Similarly there are no new options in the pipeline to replace the existing drugs.

What are we doing about it?

Wright and Morten supports BEVA's responsible antibiotic use guidelines; Protect ME. This means they have identified antibiotics categorised as critically important and pledged to PROTECT them. As such they are playing an important role in the prevention of further antibiotic resistance. By targeting the use of antibiotics carefully, and particularly by NOT using them wherever possible, we can all help to make sure they continue to work and are effective when they are really needed.

What can I do to help?

Horses rarely carry diseases that affect humans and similarly humans rarely infect horses. However there are some important exceptions, including MRSA and Salmonella. Not only can be transferred from your horse to you, but also from you to your horse, or from one horse, via you, to another horse. Thorough handwashing is important to reduce contamination and prevent the development of diseases in your horse or yourself that will reduce the need to use antibiotics.

When can we avoid antibiotics completely?

Antibiotics do not work for the treatment of viral infections so should not be used. In many bacterial infections, otherwise healthy horses are able to mount an effective immune response and cure themselves, without the need for antibiotics. If your horse has an infection your veterinary surgeon will decide whether antibiotics are likely to be beneficial. If

they are not required you should not expect your veterinary surgeon to dispense them. They are acting in the best interests of your horse to ensure that these drugs work when they are needed.

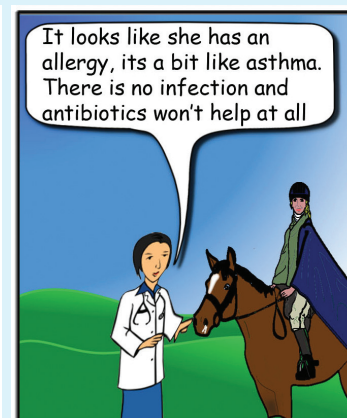
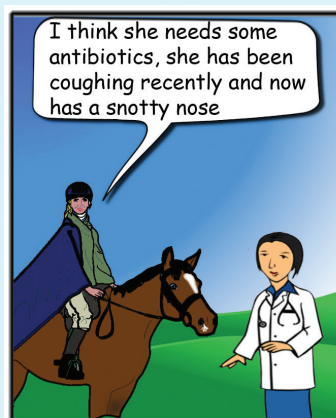
Please respect our decision to PROTECT antibiotics and only use them when they are needed.

Protect ME BEVA

**This Practice
is Protecting Antibiotics
for the Future of Equine Health**

**Please support your vet's
decision to not use
antibiotics except where
they are needed**

The poster features a photograph of a brown horse in a field. In the bottom right corner, there are two circular icons: one with three white dots and one with three blue dots.



Diseases that are not caused by bacteria won't get any better if we use antibiotics. If we overuse them they will stop working

Protect ME

Please respect your vets decision not to use antibiotics in all cases

The graphic includes the BEVA logo and a small illustration of a person riding a horse.

EQUINE CLINIC

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