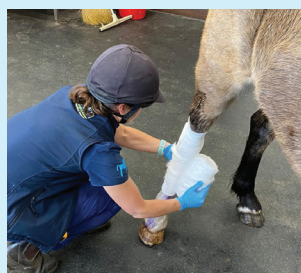


# Wright & Morten Equine Newsletter



[www.wmvets.co.uk](http://www.wmvets.co.uk)

July 2021



## Vet Nursing Awareness Month

The purpose of VNAM is to spread the word to the veterinary profession and pet owners, about the importance of the role of the veterinary nurse in practice, and the provision of responsible pet care to the general public.

Here at W&M Equine clinic we have a fantastic team who work tirelessly assisting vets, caring for your horses/ donkeys whilst here at the clinic, and assisting where needed out on farm visits. Whilst they are extremely busy they spend time getting to know every patient and ensure that there every need is catered for. Here are some examples of the work they do. Huge shout out to Lou P, Lou S, Kayleigh, Gemma, Hannah, Eadie, Daga and Caitlin...



## We are delighted to welcome Hannah Phillips to Wright and Morten, to complete our vet team...

Hannah graduated from the university of Liverpool in 2019 and spent the first 2 years working at a large animal and equine vets in Bolton. She has a keen interest in equine medicine, with her main interests being neurology and cardiology.

Hannah has two miniature dachshunds, Pumpkin and Pepper, who you might bump into around the peaks or in the lakes. Despite their little legs they love climbing hills, and will soon be attempting to climb the Wainwrights.



## Transport

Don't forget we can now help you with transport to and from our clinic. We appreciate when your horse is poorly it is a worrying time for you, and the last thing you want to be trying to do is find transport on top of everything else. We will pick your horse up for his/her appointment and return them home safely once the treatment is complete, even if you are unable to attend yourself.

### The benefits to you and your horse are:

- Superb top of the range 3.5 ton fully insured horsebox
- Experienced groom/Qualified nurse taking care of your horse from door to door
- Sedation of your horse if he/she doesn't like to load or is a worrier when travelling
- Flexibility re timings of return journey with overnight livery if required
- Competitive rates

Please contact the office for a quote and more details on: 01260 280800





## Dentistry



We're delighted that so many clients choose to use Wright & Morten for the dental care of their horses, ponies and donkeys. Excellence in the field of modern equine dentistry is something that we have long prided ourselves on with both Mark and Nic having passed the British Association of Equine Dental Technicians Examination, and Mark retaining his status as an Advancer Practitioner in Equine Practice.

Our vets are well equipped with the full complement of modern power tools. We continue to sedate our horses for routine dentistry. This allows us a full examination of the horse's mouth, and to provide a thorough treatment as required – and it keeps our patients relaxed and is safer for them and you. In particular, with the need to keep our social distance we will continue to sedate our patients.

- Sedated routine dentistry is very cost-effective, at between £80 to £95 depending on the dose of sedative used.
- Most horses only need doing once a year, although if there are underlying dental issues we might arrange revisits for six or nine months.
- We run zone dental visits in different areas of the practice over different days. These book well in advance, sometimes a couple of months – so please give us plenty of notice.
- It's best to get together with your friends – we don't charge a call out fee for yards with more than four horses.
- In addition, Mark and Nic, both Advanced Dental Practitioners carry out both routine and referral cases at our Somerford Equine Clinic. If you would like to bring your horse in for dental work please let us know.

## Insurance Update

Due to the increase in administration time, we have decided, in line with other practices, to introduce an administration charge of £20.00 to all new insurance claims from 1st July 2021.

This will be payable when you submit your claim and will not be covered by your insurance provider. You will not be charged when you submit a continuation on your claim, just on new claims.

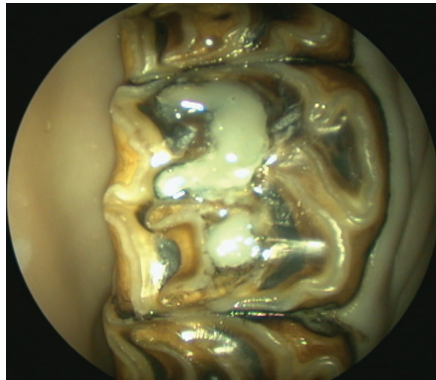
If you have any questions regarding this or your insurance, please contact the practice, who will be happy to help.

## Filling Dental Cavities in horses



Of course, we all know that human teeth often need to have fillings put in as we get older, and that this is sometimes related to eating too many sweet foods. Clients are often amazed to know that fillings have become commonplace in our equine practice as well.

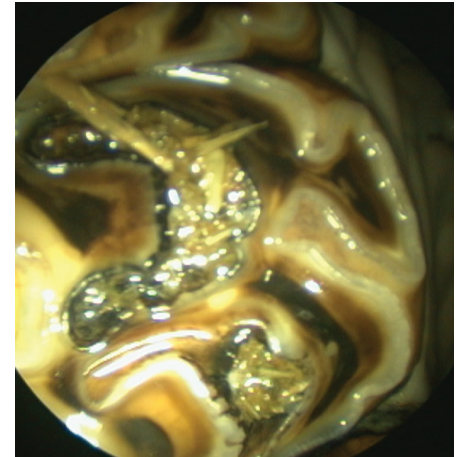
Horses' teeth are different from ours. For a start the horse is a herbivore, so they are designed to withstand the wear and tear of years of chewing abrasive food such as grass for up to 18 hours a day. Horses chew their food by grinding it between an upper and lower set of teeth, until the long fibres are reduced to a small enough length to swallow. This constant abrasion means that the teeth wear down. Luckily, the tooth is constantly erupting, unlike the situation in people where our teeth stays the same length for our adult life.



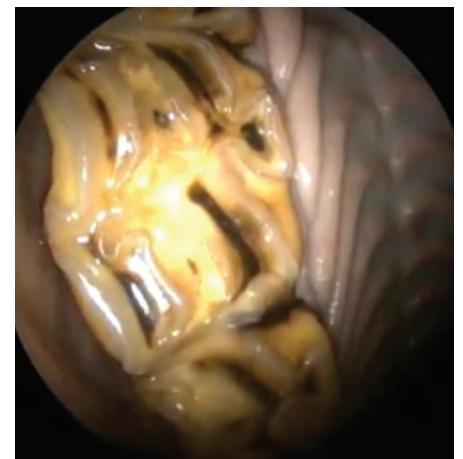
Within the erupting tooth there are folds of enamel. This increases the surface area of the tooth for grinding. In the centre of the upper teeth there are circular lakes of enamel called infundibulae. These are usually full of a softer substance called cement. However, in some circumstance the cement might be absent leaving a hole in the centre of the enamel. This allows food to get trapped into the centre of the tooth. Once this occurs, the trapped food starts to degrade, releasing enzymes that destroy the surrounding tooth. Over the long term, this can cause damage to the other structures of the tooth, and the cavity starts to grow. In turn this means more

food gets trapped within the tooth.

We tend to bring horses into the clinic and perform our fillings under standing sedation and using an oral endoscope camera. The photos show before and after filling cavities. With the horse's mouth open with a gag, we drill out all the diseased tissue until we get to healthy enamel. Then we wash and bleach the cavity to make sure it is spotlessly clean. The filling material is identical to that used in humans. We fill each tooth in several layers, bonding it to the surrounding tooth. In the end we build the filling up to the surface – literally filling the hole with impregnable material.




Fillings can last for the rest of the horse's life, but, identical to people, can also fracture and fall out after a couple of years. We usually advise you to have them checked regularly to make sure they are still doing their job. Occasionally we need to replace a filling that has fallen out.



Fillings can stop further food getting into the gaps in horse's teeth, and prevent further decay. This hopefully will save the tooth and prolong its lifespan. Sometimes teeth will continue to decay and fracture despite our best efforts. On those occasions we need to talk to you about extraction of the entire tooth to make our patient more comfortable.

## EQUINE CLINIC

Somerford Park, Holmes Chapel Road, Somerford, Cheshire, CW12 4SW Tel: 01260 280800 Email: [somerford@wmvets.co.uk](mailto:somerford@wmvets.co.uk)

 Like us on Facebook for up-to-date news and the latest events! Search 'Wright & Morten Equine Clinic'

