



Tel: 01928 787500

Autumn Newsletter

Practice news

We have said a sad goodbye to Alice who left us in April to move closer to her family but have welcomed Rachel to the practice. She has come the other way and, having been working down south for 2 years, is now moving back home to Cheshire. We have also launched our new website in the last few weeks! We are very pleased with it and have included photos of many of your horses and ponies. We are still running our iPhone app sponsored by Zoetis that enables you to organize and record all your horse appointments such as vaccination reminders, farrier visits and worming among other details. It is free to download from the App store. For help getting started visit <http://www.brownmossequineclinic.co.uk/> or feel free to ask a vet for help when they are next on the yard.

Talk About Laminitis

Talk about laminitis (TAL) is a national disease awareness initiative to improve the understanding and awareness of underlying endocrine causes of laminitis. Horses that have not been tested before have their laboratory fees paid for. Equine Cushing's disease (PPID) affects the hypothalamus and pituitary gland and results from a lack of a nerve transmitting substance causing excessively high levels of hormones which then cause the clinical signs that we see. The free tests are running until the end of October so if your horse has not been tested before and displays any of the following clinical signs then get booked in, a simple blood sample is all that is needed.



Clinical signs

- Increased drinking and urination
- Lethargy/poor performance
- Laminitis
- Recurrent infections
- Loss of muscle/pot bellied appearance
- Excessive sweating
- Increased appetite

Care and Connect

Have you signed up for TAL Care & Connect yet? Along with the benefits of having all the Cushing's ACTH results and treatment records for your horse in one place, you will also be able to download a PPID owner information pack written by a panel of expert veterinary surgeons, which will provide you with comprehensive information on the condition. The pack includes advice on monitoring and follow-up ACTH tests, feeding, general care of the PPID patient and the link between laminitis and PPID.

Join TAL Care and Connect by going to <http://www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk/careandconnect>

Eye Think It's Time To Call The Vet...

Horses commonly have problems with their eyes at this time of year. These range from simple fly irritation or conjunctivitis to a rapidly progressing uveitis which, if untreated, can cause blindness.

Common Conditions:

- **Conjunctivitis** – Clinical signs include swollen eyelids, green/cream discharge from the eye, excessive blinking and squinting and redness of the whites of the eye and the inner part of the eyelid. This can be easily treated with antibiotic/steroid cream into the eye.

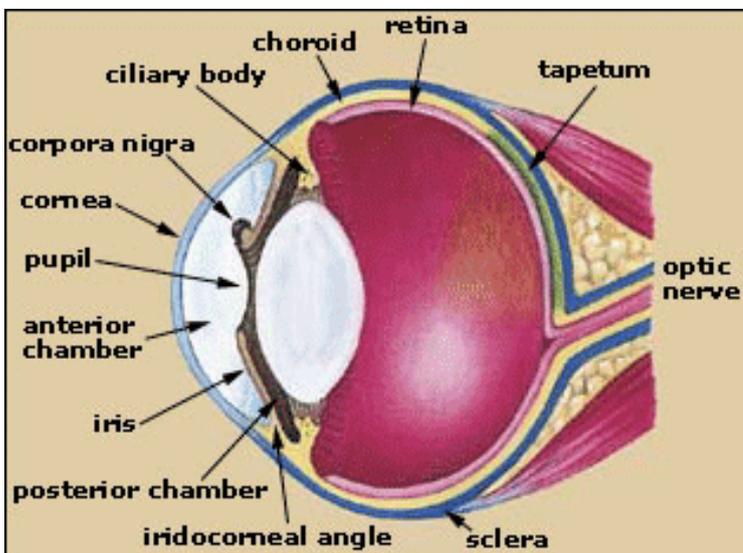


- **Corneal Ulcer** - These are caused by trauma to the eye which causes part of the surface of the eye (cornea) to be damaged. To check if your horse has an ulcer we will put a green dye into the eye which will stain the ulcer green. These are easily treated if caught early.



- **Uveitis** – This is an inflammation of the iris, choroid and ciliary body within the eye and if left untreated can be very severe. The most common causes are trauma or infection. Symptoms include swollen eyelids, discharge from the eye, squinting and blinking, a contracted pupil in the affected eye and a blueish haze in the eye. It is treated with steroids directly into the eye, atropine to reverse the pupil constriction, non steroidal anti inflammatories to reduce the inflammation and topical antibiotics.

If you're in any doubt, contact us immediately for advice as uveitis can progress very rapidly and can lead to blindness.



Autumn Worming

The worms to worry about in the autumn are round worms, tapeworm and encysted redworms.

Tapeworm burdens don't show up on a normal faecal egg count and they can cause quite nasty colics. We recommend treating for tapeworm at least once a year with a double dose of pyrantel (Strongid P) or a single dose of praziquantel (found in Equest Pramox, Equimax or Equitape). Our recommended worming programme involves giving Equest Pramox in December to get rid of both tapeworm and encysted redworm.

WORMING PROTOCOL

Regular Worm Egg Counts – we recommend SPRING, SUMMER and AUTUMN

Only horses with HIGH Worm Egg Counts are wormed with a PYRANTEL wormer.

ALL horses are wormed in DECEMBER with a dual MOXIDECTIN and PRAZIQUANTEL wormer to cover tapeworm and encysted redworm.

Regular pasture management - removing droppings from grass, harrowing etc is ESSENTIAL

Worm all new horses on to the premises with a dual MOXIDECTIN and PRAZIQUANTEL wormer BEFORE turn out.

