



Visiting Vet Voice

www.visitingvet.net

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West Nile Virus Vaccine Goes Yearly

We are now offering the Intervet yearly WNV vaccine, for \$45. The yearly vaccine will be given with the regular spring shots, but will not need to be given again in the fall. .

Opting for the yearly vaccine, PreveNile, is a savings to you of \$15! The vaccine is modified-live, has passed safety trials and is FDA approved for use in horses 4 months of age and older. Ask for it when you make your spring vaccine appointment.

Amended USEF Therapeutic Drug Rule

Over the years, ongoing veterinary research has revealed that not only is there little or no benefit to administering more than one NSAID to a horse for most medical concerns, it can actually cause potentially harmful, even severe side effects. Motivated by its commitment to the welfare of the horse, the USEF Board of Directors voted to amend its Therapeutic Drug Rule.

Beginning **April 1, 2010**, anyone using two NSAIDs in a horse within five days prior to participating at a USEF-licensed competition will be required to complete and file a **NSAID Disclosure Form** with the USEF Steward/Technical Delegate or their Designated Competition Office Representative.

The USEF Board of Directors voted to amend its **Therapeutic Drug Rule** and restrict use to a **single NSAID** beginning **December 1, 2011**. While the presence of two of the seven approved and quantitatively restricted NSAIDs in a horse will still be allowed *prior* to December 2011 (with the exception of the *forbidden combination* of phenylbutazone "Bute," and flunixin meglumine [Banamine®]), it is important to note that new restrictions are in place concerning their use.

Go Green with Visiting Vet!

Visiting Vet is now Going Green! In an effort to help save the environment, we are switching to an electronic reminder system. You will receive email reminders, updates and even our newsletter. Please call our office today and give us your email, so you can go green with us!

Reminders!

*It's time for spring vaccines, call and make an appointment today!

*Spring is also a great time to get your horse's teeth floated!

We now have **motorized dentistry**- safe, thorough and fast!

*Show season is coming- make sure your **Coggins** is up to date. Call us **10 days before traveling** to allow us to check your expiration date, state guidelines, etc.

***Health Certificates:** the vet needs the following things- your current Coggins, destination info, and will need to see your animal in person.

*Remember we are beginning to check FEC (fecal egg counts) on all horses to classify them (see prev. newsletter) and determine which dewormers are still viable.

Emergency Paging System

We are available for emergencies 24 hours



New Therapies for the Sport Horse

Mesotherapy originated in France and the technique was introduced for the equine patient at the Veterinary Seminar presented at Virginia Equine Imaging in the Spring of 2002.

Mesotherapy treatment stimulates the mesoderm, the middle layer of the skin, which will, in turn relieve a wide variety of symptoms and ailments. The treatment is used to stimulate the Giant fibers. The technique involves the injection of substances to stimulate the mesoderm for various biological purposes. Extremely small needles are used to penetrate the interdermal layer of the skin only a very small depth, which is typically four to six millimeters. The number of treatments needed depends on many variables including the condition, the abnormal physiology causing the chronicity of the problem. A minimum of one to two sessions is required to assess the horse's response. Mesotherapy is effective for a multitude of problems because it helps reverse the physiology of that condition, and stop pain spasm cycle. This technique is effective for horses with degenerative arthritis of the back and cervical vertebrae (neck) as well as back pain.

Myotherapy (Trigger Point) is a muscle therapy which involves palpation of "trigger points" (knots of muscle bound by lactic acid and other toxins) and release techniques for these points. Often confused with massage, it is a well-researched deep tissue therapy developed by JFK's White House physician, Dr. Janet Travell. Many horses that do not like the high motion of massage take well to the

a day, 7 days a week.
After hours an answering service will answer all emergency calls. Any messages left at the office after hours will be answered the next business day.
(330) 665-5915

Our New Rx Policy

Due to new Ohio Veterinary laws, we are required to document all prescriptions written by our veterinarians. As this has increased our time and paperwork, we are now charging a fee of \$10 per drug per year. Remember, in order for us to legally fill or write a prescription, your pet needs to have been seen by one of our veterinarians within the last year. Thanks for your understanding!

gentle, firm pressure of myotherapy. The entire body is palpated for these trigger points, and each is released with compression techniques as well as assisted stretches to re-train muscles to lengthen and relax. Owners are then instructed to use specific ground and riding exercises that target the problematic areas to keep the horse on the path of optimum flexibility and performance.

Canine Influenza

Prior to 2003, Canine Influenza was a disease unknown to dogs. It jumped species at a Florida racetrack, from horses to greyhounds, and for the first time dogs had their very own flu. This is a common thing for the influenza virus to do- as we have seen with "avian" and "swine" flu. Since 2003, it has spread up the east coast and has been seen in dogs all the way up to New England. At this time we have no documented cases in OH, but it has been diagnosed in PA.

As this is a brand-new disease in dogs, all dogs are 100% susceptible because they have never had the chance to develop antibodies to it. Although all dogs will contract it if in contact with it, only 80% of dogs will show signs. The symptoms are coughing, sneezing, fever, and generally feeling terrible. Often this disease looks just like kennel cough and is in fact misdiagnosed all the time, one for the other. In general, most dogs recover just fine with a little TLC, but 20% of those dogs who show signs may come down with pneumonia- and that is when things get serious. Of those dogs who get pneumonia, 5% have a risk of death. Naturally, it is best to have your dog seen and treated if he shows any signs of flu or kennel cough- just to be on the safe side.

The canine flu, just like human flu, is transmitted by mucus and saliva. It travels from dog to dog, but it can also survive on surfaces, hands and clothing for up to 24 hours. Luckily, it is easily killed by most cleaning solvents- so wash your hands! Most dogs who contract the flu are contagious for a few days before they show signs; this means it is spread very easily. What can we do to slow down the spread? There is a new vaccine out by Schering Plough, and the vaccine

appears to be quite safe, and effective at lessening symptoms and shortening the infectious period- lessening the number of other dogs that the flu will affect. Although we have not yet seen this flu in Ohio, we are currently vaccinating in order to protect our patients for when the disease moves across our borders from PA. The dogs we most recommend the vaccine for are the same dogs we recommend the kennel cough vaccine for- those who travel, board, go to the groomer, puppy class, shows, and the dog park.

GET \$5 OFF THE NEW VACCINE!

Mention that you read this article when you call in for your vaccine appointment and get \$5 off! Thank you for visiting our website!