

Northern New Mexico's Only Full Service Equine Hospital

Office Hours - 8:30 a.m. to 5 p.m. Monday through Friday • Saturday 8:30-12 PM
24-Hour Emergency Service for clinic calls and mobile service to the Santa Fe area

Some of Our Services:

- Colic and other emergency surgery
- Complete mobile services
- 2 meter gastroscope for diagnosis of stomach problems
- Reproductive services for mares and stallions
- Performance horse lameness exams
- Prepurchase exams
- Advanced dentistry
- Behavioral consultations
- Layups - convalescent care
- Boarding

Many other services - see our web site for details

Clinic/Emergency number: **505-438-6590** Email: drthal@thalequine.com

Top 10 Things Horse Owners Should Know About Colic

Presented at the Thal Equine Open House, August 2007

1. Colic is not a disease, but a horse's way of showing abdominal pain.
2. Colic results from a wide variety of problems, mostly involving the intestine but also resulting from other problems in the abdomen and even outside of it; for example, a bladder stone, or "tying-up."
3. Colic symptoms can range from hardly noticeable, mild signs, including simply being off feed or lying down more than usual, to the classic severe signs that we all think of, i.e., vigorous pawing, and thrashing around.
4. Intestinal problems causing colic are much more common in horses that are stabled than horses living a more natural lifestyle (pasture turnout).
5. Many colic cases will resolve with a little time or a shot of Banamine. These are usually cases of simple gas or spasm in the gut. Drugs like Banamine do nothing to actually fix the problem but merely break the cycle of pain in the gut. Banamine can also mask signs of colic, causing costly delays.
6. The horse's intestinal tract is very complicated. Each part of the tract can cause problems that result in colic pain.
7. It is the veterinarian's job to quickly and accurately decide whether the horse may

respond to medical therapy or needs surgery.

8. Veterinarians use a combination of history, physical exam, and many other diagnostic tests, all taken together, to help make this decision.
9. Most simple colic cases are associated with a change in management.
10. Early communication with your veterinarian is best. In this way, you can work together to develop a plan for handling the problem.



Thal Equine Open House, August 25, 2007

For more information, see the Articles page at www.thalequine.com.

REFER A FRIEND

REFERRING A FRIEND to our practice is the truest compliment you can pay us. Give this newsletter to a friend who has never used our services. It is good for \$20.00 credit toward veterinary services on their first visit. In addition, you will get a credit of \$20.00 on your account for referring them. Good through December 31, 2007.

Name of referring client: _____

Name of new client referred: _____



Gastroscopy on a horse with gastric ulcers

Thal Equine, LLC
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