

POST-COLIC CARE



**SIERRA
EQUINE**
(530) 272-4537

Most horse owners have dealt with colic. Rather than a disease, colic is a condition of pain. Specifically, colic refers to abdominal pain most often originating from the digestive tract. Signs of colic include:

1. Not eating or drinking
2. Circling, laying down, rising frequently, pawing at the ground, rolling, stretched out neck or parked out stance.
3. Reduced or no manure output
4. Turning head and looking at flank or abdomen, kicking at abdomen
5. Elevated pulse, heart rate, or a temperature of 102 degrees or higher.

Following initial treatment, monitoring your horse for pain and discomfort is extremely important. Look for any of the above signs and **call us if observed.**

Keep the horse confined and off feed for 12 hours after a colic episode. If the horse seems comfortable and is passing manure normally after 12 hours, give $\frac{1}{4}$ of the normal ration with warm bran mash or Equine Sr. mash. If improvement continues, at the next feeding give $\frac{1}{2}$ normal ration with another warm bran mash. If improvement continues, return to normal ration for the following feedings. It is also important for your horse to have access to plenty of fresh water at all times. Give any medication prescribed as directed by the veterinarian. Do not give any medication without consulting the veterinarian first.

If you are a Sierra Equine client, we urge you to call if you suspect colic. We can often help you assess the severity over the phone. Early intervention often prevents late night emergencies!!!