

Emergency Chart

Vital Signs

Adult Horse:

Temperature: 99.5 – 101.5 F
Heart Rate: 32 – 44 beats/min
Respiratory Rate: 6 – 16 breaths/min
Mucous Membrane Color: Pale Pink
Capillary Refill Time: 1 – 2 seconds
Gut Sounds: Always Present

Foals:

Temperature: Increases the first four days, then plateaus at 100 – 102 F

Heart Rate: 60 – 110 beats/min
Respiratory: 25 – 60 breaths/min

First Aid Kit

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| Stethoscope | Thermometer |
| Scissors | Hemostat |
| 4 x 4 Gauze | 6'' gauze roll |
| Vet Wrap | Elastikon tape |
| Ophthalmic Oint. | Telfa pads |
| Light | Duct tape |
| Salt | Plastic bowl |
| Water-soluble antibacterial ointment | |
| Antiseptic soap (Betadine Scrub) | |
| Antiseptic solution (Betadine) | |
| Sheet or Roll Cotton | |
| Medication (if possible) – SMZ-TMS Phenylbutazone or Banamine | |

Basic First Aid

Lacerations:

- Control Hemorrhage- bandage or direct pressure
- Clean contaminated wounds with clear water, antiseptic soap
- Control swelling – bandage
- Attention to punctures

Colic:

- Mild to Moderate pain- obtain vital signs then call for assistance/advice
- No Food – Walk 10-15 min, Rest 30 min
- Severe or Unrelenting Pain – Call NOW

Parturition:

- Stage II (Breaking Water) – 10-30 min and making progress, “diving” position with staggered front legs then head, if mal-positioned or no progress – call for assistance
- Stage III (Pass Afterbirth) – Should pass placenta within 4 hrs, examine for entirety
- Wash mare around vulva and udder to dilute contamination
- Foal should stand and nurse within 2 hrs, dip navel with antiseptic solution

Lameness:

- Look for heat and swelling
- Apply cold 20-30 min
- Minimize swelling, support and immobilize with a bandage
- Nothing Apparent- It’s in the foot until proven otherwise

Eye Problem:

- Clean/Flush w/ salt sol. or water
- Cold compress if swollen
- Antibiotic ophthalmic ointment
- Call for assistance/advice

Courtesy of Pioneer Equine Hospital

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