

HAYES EQUINE VETERINARY SERVICES

6544 FM 1753
Katie Hayes, DVM
www.hayesequinevet.com

DENISON, TX 75021

(903) 465-0777
Meghan McCarville, DVM
Find us on Facebook

August 2017 Newsletter

Continued Education

This past month, Dr. Meghan attended a seminar put on by the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) that focused on Dentistry and Colic. Held in the heart of horse country, this two-and-a-half-day seminar covered such topics as preventing, diagnosing, and treating colic, and diagnosing and treating dental and sinus disease, and the importance of doing so.

Dentistry

Some of the most helpful things Dr. Meghan learned at this seminar, was how to identify which teeth are the problem based on the oral exam and on dental x-rays. Gingival recession (when the gums start pulling away from the teeth) and dental caries (a disease marked by tiny holes in the grinding surface of the tooth) are big indicators of underlying dental disease that when identified, can allow problem teeth to be removed before the horse stops eating or gets really bad smelling breath. Dental mirrors and oral cameras can be big helps when trying to diagnose dental disease.

Dr. Meghan also learned some tips and tricks to removing teeth. New tools have been added to her repertoire to allow for easier extraction of some of the more difficult teeth. She also learned how to reconstruct teeth to allow for easier removal without surgery. New anesthetic techniques were discussed to allow for better numbing of the teeth to allow for easier extractions.

Colic

A really interesting talk that Dr. Meghan attended was about using the FLASH method for ultrasounding the equine abdomen. The FLASH method is a very quick diagnostic tool that looks at each of the major problem areas in the equine abdomen and how to identify when there is a problem and what the problem may be. Dr. Meghan also learned some different techniques in pain management for horses that don't respond to Banamine.

Fungus Among Us

Make sure you are checking your horse's eyes every day. This time of year, as the weeds start getting higher, we start seeing a much higher incidence of fungal eye infections as the weeds are right at eye level when the horse is grazing. Fungal infections are incredibly difficult and expensive to treat, so prevention is the best medicine. Mowing pastures, fly masks, and careful observation of your horse's eyes are the best way to avoid a major expense. A weepy, painful eye is always an emergency, and

needs to be seen by a veterinarian within 24 hours. Just rinsing the eye and watching for worsening often means that we are behind the ball whenever we do eventually get to see it, which makes it much more difficult to treat.

Castration Signs: Too Hot!!!