

# Equine First Aid

Provided By

Briarwood Equine Clinic  
2995 Woodside Road, Ste. 400  
Woodside, CA 94062  
650-851-1569

<u>Presenting Sign:</u>	<u>Further Findings:</u>	<u>Possible Causes:</u>	<u>First Aid:</u>
1. Down			
A. Quiet	1. Off feed, pawing	Colic	Get horse up, walk.
	2. Temperature >10r	Infection, illness	Check for swellings, cough.
	3. Reluctance to move non-weight bearing	Foot abscess Founder	Check/clean feet. Heat? Do not walk.
	4. Reluctant to move	Tied up	Do not walk.
B. Rolling	1. See "I" above	Colic	Try to walk. Be cautious. Rolling does not cause twist.
C. Falling down	1. Falling backwards eye twitch, blood from nose or ears.	Head trauma	Stay clear.
2. Lameness			
A. Non-weight bearing.	1. Tendon swollen, tender to touch	Tendon injury	Cold water/ice. Support wrap.
	2. Swelling and wound	Infection Fracture	Check temperature. Clean wound and wrap Do not walk. Support wrap.
	3. Little or no swelling	Foot abscess	Soak foot in warm water. Easy boot.
B. Lame at walk	1. Leg swollen or tender	Same as above but less severe	Compare opposite leg to localize problem.
3. Lacerations			
A. Lower leg	1. Profuse bleeding	Arterial Cut.	Pressure wrap.
	2. Over tendon or joint	Contaminated tendon or joint.	Wash with antiseptic. Wrap with sterile/clean wrap.
	3. Simple cuts	Flesh wound	Wash with antiseptic/wrap .

Presenting Sign:	Further Findings:	Possible Causes:	First Aid:
B. Upper leg, body, head	1. Simple cuts 2. Deep or large wound	Flesh wound Serious wound	Wash with antiseptic. Wash with antiseptic.
	3. Bone exposed or major facial injury	Sinus or tooth fracture	Keep clean. Check breathing.
4. Respiratory System			
A. Runny nose	1. Clear discharge 2. Discharge/fever 3. Heavy discharge/Fever	Normal, allergy Viral infection Strangles	Take temperature, check for cough Isolation. Rest. Meds??? Isolation. Avoid contact.
B. Cough	1. Cough when eating 2. Cough when eating Food in nostrils 3. Cough and discharge	Hay dust, allergy Choke Infection	Wet hay, feed pellets. Remove feed, lower head Allow to cough. Consult with vet. See A2 and A3 above.
C. Bloody nose	1. Spontaneous 2. Following exercise	Trauma Bleeder	Rest. Rest.
5. Skin bumps			
A. One to a few	1. Summer 2. Saddle/Girth area a. small, hard b. soft, flat 3. Large, firm in chest	Fly/Insect bites Collagen bump Pressure bump Pigeon Fever	Cold hose/Check for ticks. None. Can be injected. Cold water/ice. Check tack. Take temp. Hot pack, poultice.
B. Many bumps	1. ~ to 2 in. on neck, chest, torso 2. Scabs/yellow crust	Hives Tick bites	Cold water. Wash. Insecticides.
6. Eyes/Eyelids			
A. One eyelid swollen	1. Eye open, no discharge	Trauma/Insect bite	Cold pack. Check for wound.
B. Squinting	1. Tearing/discharge 2. Redness/cloudiness 3. Severe eye pain	Trauma Corneal injury Corneal injury Uveitis/Moon blind	Cold pack. Check for wound. Eye wash. Dark Stall. Dark stall. Vd. Dark stall. Vet
C. Both eyelids swollen	1. Little to no discharge	Allergy/Hives	Cold pack.

REMEMBER- THESE ARE GUIDELINES ONLY. ALWAYS CONSULT YOUR VET IF YOU HAVE QUESTIONS. ONLY GIVE MEDICATION WHEN ADVISED BY A VETERINARIAN.

NORMAL VALUES: TEMP=99-101° PULSE=32-40 BPM RESPIRATION=8-16 BPM.