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## Summer Newsletter 2014

Hello and welcome to our summer newsletter! We will now be sending out quarterly newsletters with our invoices, containing news, current & upcoming offers and seasonal advice. The newsletters will also be available to download from our website - [www.allanheathequine.co.uk](http://www.allanheathequine.co.uk).

## Summer Struggles - Laminitis

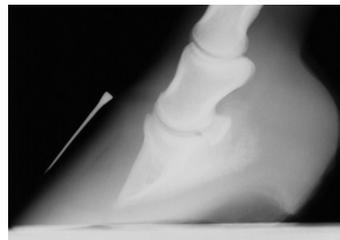
We have seen an unusual increase in the number of laminitis cases over the last month. There are several contributing factors, such as high intake of sugars or carbohydrates, too much lush pasture, stress or being overweight, though very often there is an underlying cause such as Cushing's disease (PPID) or Equine Metabolic Syndrome (EMS).

Signs of laminitis include:

- Being footsore or "footy", especially on a hard surface, this will be worse when turning in a tight circle,

- Reluctant to move around much,
- Standing still, shifting weight between feet or leaning backwards on heels,
- Strong digital pulse,
- In acute cases lameness may be so severe your horse may lie down and be unable to stand.

There is a nationwide campaign called "Talk About Laminitis" which aims to increase the awareness of laminitis, Cushing's disease and EMS. Their website, [www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk](http://www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk) is very informative.



Free lab tests for Cushing's disease are being offered for horses who haven't been tested before, saving you over £30. If you are concerned that your horse or pony might have laminitis, EMS or Cushing's disease please contact us for more information.

## Fly bites & allergic reactions

We are also seeing a lot of allergic reactions and hayfever like symptoms at the moment due to high pollen counts & flies. If your horse develops breathing difficulties such as wheezing or coughing please contact us for advice. Fly bite reactions can vary from a few small lumps and bumps to large, circular swellings. They

can also cause allergy-like breathing difficulties in rare cases. Cold hosing and cold sponging the area can relieve any itching or pain and good fly rugs & repellants are essential at this time of year. If you are concerned or would like more advice regarding fly control or bite reactions please give us a call.



## FREE VISIT SCHEME

We offer free visits for vaccinations - please ring 10-14 days before your horse's vaccination is due and we will put your name down for the scheme. If we are in your area we will call you in the morning and see if you're available for us to pop in and do your vaccination. We are only able to offer free visits for vaccinations, any other calls will be subject to a visit charge. Please ask Kirsten, our receptionist, for details.

## FREE LAB TESTS FOR CUSHING'S DISEASE

Through the "Talk About Laminitis" campaign we are offering free lab tests for Cushing's Disease (PPID), saving you over £30 on test fees. If you are concerned your horse or pony has laminitis, Cushing's or EMS or would like more information about the free test offer please contact us.