

WHEN TO CALL THE VET

A veterinary surgeon should be consulted urgently by the owner or person in charge of the horse if there are any signs of:

- Acute abdominal pain or colic
- Serious injury involving deep wounds, severe haemorrhage, suspected bone fractures or damage to the eyes
- Evidence of straining for more than 30 minutes by a mare due to foal
- Inability to rise or stand
- Inability or abnormal reluctance to move
- Severe diarrhoea
- Prolonged/abnormal sweating, high temperature, anxiety, restlessness, loss of appetite
- Any other signs of acute pain or injury
- Respiratory distress

A veterinary surgeon should be consulted within 48 hours of the owner or person in charge becoming aware of the following conditions:

- Marked lameness that has not responded to normal first aid treatment
- Injury that has not responded to normal first aid treatment
- Signs suspicious of strangles or other infectious disease, nasal discharge, raised temperature, enlarged lymph nodes, cough
- Sustained loss of appetite
- Persistent weight loss
- Skin conditions that have not responded to treatment, including saddle sores and girth galls
- Other sub-acute illness or injury