

Notice for clients

OUT OF HOURS ARRANGEMENTS FOR PATIENT CARE

Telephone Number 01209 823457

While your horse is in our hospital it will be under the care of the on-duty veterinary surgeon, generally assisted by students. Equine patients are monitored and treated as necessary by the Veterinary staff responsible for their care.

Protocol for Care of Equine In-Patients overnight

- ❖ At the end of each week-day, patient rounds are completed by the vets responsible for your horse, this is to ensure a smooth handover is provided to the on-duty veterinary surgeon for that evening. Ensuring that your horses medical and care requirements are discussed in-depth.
- ❖ Your horse will be checked at 8.00pm, midnight and 8.00am and also at 4.00am if their condition requires this. This will be determined by the Veterinary surgeon in charge of your case.
- ❖ Temperature, pulse and respiration rates will be measured and recorded on the hospitalisation sheet, unless the senior clinician has indicated that this is unnecessary for your horse.
- ❖ It is also recorded if your horse has eaten/drank/urinated/defaecated. Any other important observations about your horse will also be recorded on the hospitalisation sheet.
- ❖ We will check that your horse for signs of pain, including colic or postsurgical pain. Pain relief will be given as necessary.
- ❖ Your horse is checked to ensure it is clean and comfortable. Dressings will be checked and changed if soaked through or contaminated and recorded on the hospitalisation sheet as necessary.
- ❖ We will give medication and/or take samples depending on your horses requirements and again record this on your horses hospitalisation sheet.
- ❖ By the end of morning rounds the on-duty veterinary surgeon will ensure that any relevant information regarding your horse has been discussed with either the veterinary surgeon in charge of the case or the veterinary surgeon who is taking over responsibility for their care.
- ❖ If you have any questions, please discuss them with the veterinary surgeon in charge of your horse.