

## **Welcome to our Summer 2020 Newsletter!**

It has certainly been a bit of a departure from our usual summer preparations with our horses; we hope you are all keeping well during the lockdown period. Our bonds with animals and the people in our lives are vitally important at times like this and we hope that everyone is staying positive and looking after each other. The current global situation is highlighting the importance of connection and communication; the ways in which we do so may be different, but by adapting and evolving, everyone can move towards a brighter, more united future.

At present, although people may not be riding much and there are no events on the horizon, horses may still need veterinary attention for existing conditions or injuries! Rest assured that we are still offering our emergency services as well as other "standard" visits like vaccinations. Each visit will be assessed first on a case to case basis, in order to enable us to implement social distancing measures while continuing to provide our normal high standards of veterinary care.

#### SHOP

We are pleased to announce the launch of our online shop! Stocking some essential day-to-day veterinary items, such as bandages, wound care creams, feed supplements and also medications (some requiring a valid prescription). This extra service now enables you to order online from us, and then receive items in the post.

We only stock a select few special chosen items that we feel are helpful. They are all products that we use in the practice, meaning that we are confident in using them ourselves, and therefore offering them in our shop. You can search by the product name or by category as well - supplements, first aid, hoof care, skin care and more!

This is another way that we can help all our wonderful clients during the present circumstances and also maintain our commitment to equine health and welfare. If you have any queries about the shop, ordering, or if you need something that isn't listed on the site, please email us at office@espinarequine.co.uk

To shop, please click the link below: http://www.espinarequine.co.uk/shop/



### REHABILITATION EXERCISES

Emiliano has put together some information about the benefits of specific rehabilitation exercises for horses with various issues such as kissing spines, tendon injuries or stifle problems. Compiled from the latest research and explaining the reasoning behind the movements, as well as how to correctly perform the exercises, we hope they will be a useful guide to refer to. Before starting any rehabilitation programme it is vital to **have a diagnosis**. This is the main requirement because some (even fairly simple) exercises may actually be detrimental for horses with certain specific problems. If you don't know what the problem is to start with, you run the risk not only of wasting time, effort and money on following the wrong programme, but more seriously it could actually make your horse worse and affect long-term welfare.



Personalised advice is always best and as your vet, we would have been involved in the initial investigations, diagnosis and treatment, so this is something that we are in an ideal position to offer. We have always believed in a personal, friendly and professional service; in fact, it is the underlying ethos of our veterinary company. This means getting to know you and your horse, forming a long-term relationship which means we are there for you throughout the years, however your plans change, or whatever state of health your horse is in. Understanding your individual requirements enables us to take your horses needs into account and formulate a plan that works!

Once the current lockdown period ends, whether your horse has been off work, on reduced exercise, still training, or once plans are made to commence attending events again for example, it could be an ideal opportunity to have a health and soundness check to make sure that your horse is still on track to performing happily.

If any issues are detected later on, during further stages of work for example, then we can investigate. Once a diagnosis is made and a treatment plan agreed on, the rehabilitation programmes will enable you to promote injury recovery, assist in getting your horse back to feeling comfortable and performing at their best.

# REPRODUCTIVE SERVICES

Although any decision to breed needs to be considered carefully (in terms of caring for the mare during pregnancy and then raising a foal), with a bit of time off on the horizon some people are choosing to put their mares in foal. We offer a variety of reproductive services; both Chilled Semen Insemination and Natural Cover packages, standalone ultrasound scans for oestrus cycles and pregnancy



confirmation as well as laboratory services such as CEM swabs, and EIA and EVA tests.

The packages are for one cycle and include all ultrasound scans up to the 28 day pregnancy scan, routine reproduction drugs, artificial insemination (if necessary) and a post-cover flush. If you would like to discuss the packages in more detail, prices for first and subsequent cycles, or simply have questions about any aspect of equine reproduction, please get in touch.

## **CPD**

Did you know that all vets have to undertake 35 hours of CPD each year? The current lockdown has given many of us time to further our learning and the team at Espinar Equine are no different! It's been good to catch up with recent developments and discuss with colleagues about how veterinary care will look in the next few months, both from a clinical perspective and from the admin side. We've also been busy watching some webinars from other experts



around the world - its great to be able to attend courses virtually and keep furthering our knowledge from home. Whether you're learning a new skill or reading up about an existing area of interest, we hope you are appreciating and enjoying the vast range of content online.

We have also been busy working on some business projects, looking at ways we can make our services even better and more efficient, ready for when things are back to normal!

Hopefully circumstances will change again over the next few weeks; although the world may not go entirely back to how it was before, we are looking forwards to the many positive changes in the future. We are still providing our full range services (with social distancing measures in place) and looking forwards to seeing you and your horses back out doing what you enjoy soon!















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