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## New Foal Care

### **Congratulations on your new foal!**

To achieve optimal physical health and athleticism in your new foal, please adhere to the husbandry and veterinary guidelines listed below:

- **IgG levels** – Within the first 24 hours after birth, the foal’s blood IgG level should be assessed. The IgG Snaptest measures the concentration of blood immunoglobulins, which are acquired from the mare’s colostrum (first milk). If your mare did not have high quality colostrum or the foal did not suckle enough, it will have a low IgG level: this leaves them extremely susceptible to infection. Early detection of low IgG levels can lead to early treatment and prevent serious disease from developing.
- **New foal exam** – A new foal exam should be performed to ensure your foal is healthy. This exam will check your foal’s physical condition, including its umbilicus (a major source of newborn infections). At this time, any trauma from the birthing process can be diagnosed (such as rib fractures) and early intervention performed in case angular limb deformities/ contracted tendons are present.
- **Farrier work** – It is a popular belief that foals do not require farrier work; however, without routine trims and proper hoof care in the first year of life, foals may develop conformational issues.
- **Nutrition** – Adequate vitamin and mineral supplementation is necessary for a growing foal to help them develop properly. We recommend starting your foal on a vitamin and mineral supplement (such as Nutrequine Elite) as soon as it begins to nibble on solid food.
- **Vaccinations and Deworming** – Vaccines within the first year of life help build the foal's immunity to the many diseases that they may encounter. High worm burdens can slow your foal’s growth and even cause colic or death if untreated. Please follow the vaccination and deworming protocol laid out below, as recommended by the AAEP.

### **Vaccination Protocol**

Foal	Vaccine
4 Months	EWT+WNV
5 Months	EWT+WNV
6 Months	Flu/Rhino
7 Months	Flu/Rhino
10-12 Months	EWT+WNV Flu/Rhino

Please call for protocol recommendations for foals from mares that were not vaccinated one month before foaling.

### **Deworming Protocol**

Deworm at:
2 Months
4 Months
6 Months *FEC 2 weeks later*
8 Months
10 Months
12 Months *FEC 2 weeks later*

Please consult our veterinarians for drug choices. Foals can have adverse reactions or fail to respond to some anthelmintic drugs. Do not use moxidectin in foals less than 4 months of age or if they have not previously been dewormed.

FEC = Fecal Egg Count