

Level 1 ~ Critical: Call the vet IMMEDIATELY!

- Non-weight-bearing lameness, e.g., a fracture
- Sudden/severe inability to breathe normally; rapid/distressed asthmatic breathing or an obviously obstructed upper airway
- Persistent bleeding from an orifice or wound
- Severe or persistent colicky behavior; very important to call early due to the progressive course and high risk of many colic cases
- Sudden onset of blindness, obvious eye trauma or unwillingness to open eyelids
- Any mare who takes longer than 30 minutes to complete her second stage of labor (delivery of foal)
- Acute laminitis
- Trauma at or near vital structures such as eyes, genitals, major nerves and vessels (throatlatch) or orthopedic components (joints, tendons, ligaments, synovial compartments)
- Trauma in need of immediate attention for cosmetic reasons
- High fever (over 103 degrees F)
- Heat stroke
- Severe diarrhea

Level 2 ~ Urgent: Call the vet that day or next morning.

- Low-grade fever
- Sudden onset of lameness that is weight-bearing
- Trauma that is superficial, away from vital structures, not compromising normal vital function and not in need of immediate attention for cosmetic reasons
- Signs of less severe colic such as poor appetite, dullness and/or diminished fecal passage
- Flare-ups of chronic laminitis
- Flare-ups of chronic inflammatory respiratory disease

Level 3 ~ Elective: Schedule an appointment

- Intermittent and slight lameness
- Persistent dermatitis (skin problem)
- Intermittent and slight eye discharge with no sign of pain or poor vision
- Reduced appetite with no other clinical signs
- Slight difficulty chewing
- Slight nasal discharge with no fever or labored breathing

Level 4 ~ Preventative: Regular preventative care

- Vaccinations
- De-worming
- Dental Work
- Pre-Purchase Exam