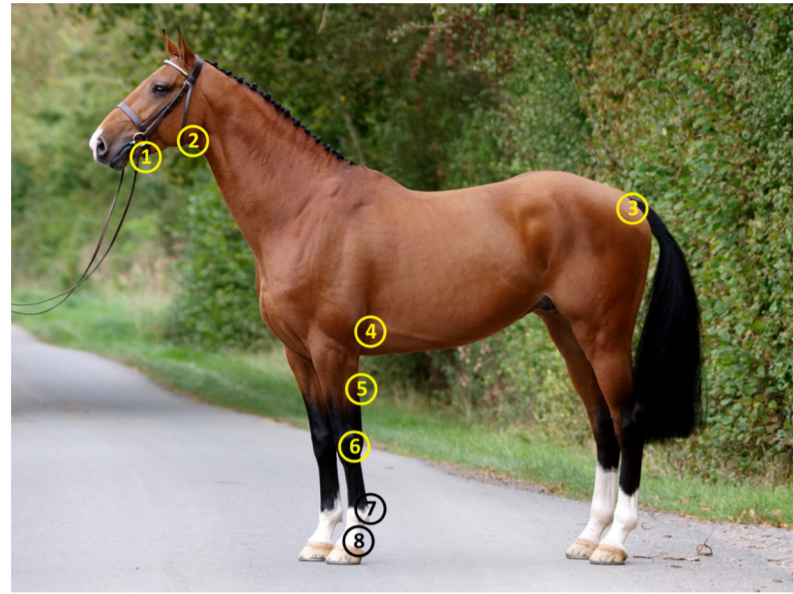


Are you and your horse ready for an emergency?

Have your emergency plan ready, and be prepared for anything!

Normal ranges for adult horses

Heart rate 28 - 40 beats per minute (see below for pulse points)



Respiratory rate 8 - 16 breaths / minute

Temperature 36.5 - 38.5°C

If temp exceeds 39°C, contact your veterinarian immediately

Capillary refill time 2 seconds or less

time taken for colour to return to gum tissue after pressing with your finger

Basic first aid kit

- Cotton wool roll
- Gauze pads, assorted sizes
- Bandages
- Adhesive tape
- Leg wraps
- Sharp scissors
- Rectal thermometer
- Surgical scrub such as Betadine®
- Antiseptic solution
- Antiseptic powder or ointment
- Latex gloves and face mask
- Torch and spare batteries
- Permanent marker pen
- Pliers (to pull nails)
- Up-to-date vaccination record (Tetanus, Strangles, Hendra etc)

When disaster strikes...

If you live in a disaster-prone region, it's important to be prepared to ensure that you and your horses stay safe. Decide well in advance of the disaster season on a safe place to keep your horse in an emergency. Ask yourself whether or not the place you've chosen is prone to flooding or bushfires, close to cyclonic winds, or at risk of flying debris. Also consider whether the safe place you've chosen can be accessed after an extreme event.

Your evacuation kit should include:

- 7 - 10 days worth of feed and water supplies
- Torch and spare batteries
- Blankets
- Vet records and proof of ownership
- First aid kit including current prescription medications
- Emergency contact list
- Grooming gear
- Feed and care instructions
- Fly repellent
- Halter and leads with contact information on tags
- Rope, wire cutters, a knife, a shovel and rubbish bags
- Water buckets
- Map of your local area

Emergency wound care

Evaluate the location, depth and severity of the wound.

Contact your veterinarian before you attempt to clean the wound or remove debris or penetrating objects. At this stage, do not put anything on the wound except a compress or cold water.

Do not attempt to treat injuries to the horse's eye!

Stop the bleeding by covering the wound with a sterile, absorbent pad (not cotton wool), applying firm steady even pressure to the wound. **Make sure to wear latex gloves.**

Do not medicate or tranquilise the horse unless directed by your veterinarian - if the horse has suffered severe blood loss or shock, the administration of certain drugs can be life-threatening.

If your horse has stepped on a nail or other sharp object that is embedded in the hoof, first clean the hoof, but **talk with your veterinarian** before you remove the object. If advised, carefully remove the object to prevent the horse from stepping on it and driving it deeper into the hoof. Mark the point and depth of entry with a marker so the veterinarian can assess the extent of the damage. Apply antiseptic, and wrap to prevent additional contamination.

All horses being treated for lacerations or puncture wounds will require **effective tetanus protection.**

Emergency contacts

Write your important phone numbers here to keep them handy.

Your veterinarian



Ascot Equine Veterinarians

Address | 66 Matheson Rd, Ascot WA 6104

Email | ascoteqvet@bigpond.com

Telephone | (08) 9277 7737

Website | www.ascotequinevets.com.au

Equine Veterinarians Australia (02) 9431 5080

RSPCA (08) 9209 9300

Emergency Services 000

Equine Veterinarians Australia (EVA) is a special interest group of the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA) and the premier provider of continuing professional development for equine veterinarians in Australia, with an emphasis on providing the support members need to remain at the forefront of equine veterinary medicine. EVA maintains strong links with both equine organisations and horse owners. An important role for EVA is providing advice and information to the people who care for horses to ensure that Australian horses enjoy the best possible health and welfare.

To find an EVA Veterinarian in your area, visit www.ava.com.au/equine

