



Chew on this!

Your Horse Needs A Dental Exam Every Year.

All horses deserve a thorough oral health examination at least once a year to ensure good overall health. While most dental problems are easily treated when diagnosed early, neglecting one can lead to other serious health problems for your horse.

Call your equine veterinarian today to schedule your horse's next dental exam.

To learn more about equine dental care, visit www.aaep.org/horseowner





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As active members of the American Association of Equine Practitioners, the veterinarians of San Dieguito Equine Group, Inc. support the campaign to increase awareness of the importance of preventative dentistry. Oral examinations are an essential part of every horse's routine physical examination. Mature horses should get a thorough dental examination at least once a year. Younger horses just starting their performance careers should be examined twice yearly.



Horses with dental problems may show obvious clinical signs, such as pain or irritation, dropping feed while eating, difficulty chewing, excessive salivation, large feed particles in the manure, or foul odor from the mouth. These signs are quickly identified as dental problems by owners and trainers. Other signs, though, such as loss of body condition, head tilting, bit chewing, tongue lolling, fighting the bit, resisting the bridle, difficulty turning, difficulty stopping, odor from the nose or nasal discharge, are more difficult to identify as arising from a horse's

mouth and are frequently related to an underlying dental problem. Some horses may show no clinical abnormalities because they can simply adapt to a certain level of discomfort.

CLINICAL SIGNS

- Pain or irritation
- Dropping feed while eating
- Difficulty chewing
- Excessive salivation
- Large particles in the manure
- Foul odor from the mouth
- Loss of body condition
- Head tilting
- Bit chewing
- Tongue lolling
- Fighting the bit
- Resisting the bridle
- Difficulty turning
- Difficulty stopping
- Odor from the nose
- Nasal discharge

An annual oral examination by the veterinarian allows us to catch dental problems early when they are easier to correct and before they cause your horse significant discomfort. Proper dental care has its rewards! Your horse will be more comfortable, utilize feed more effectively and perform more consistently.

Dr. Maureen Kelleher and Dr. Michael Manno currently perform routine oral examinations and preventative dental



care for San Dieguito Equine Group, Inc. Both doctors have state-of-the-art power dentistry equipment that allows them to perform safe, efficient dental work for your horse. They are both experienced in routine dental procedures as well as identifying abnormalities and potential problems in your horse's mouth.

Dr. Kelleher and Dr. Manno are available to discuss current research in equine dentistry and the latest techniques available for maintaining a healthy mouth in your horse. Please call our office at to set-up an appointment for your horse's yearly dental exam. Your horse will thank you.

SAN DIEGUITO
EQUINE • GROUP

1202 Calle Maria
San Marcos, CA 92069

760.591.9952
www.sdequine.com