



AGNEW EQUINE NEWS

Independent. Ambulatory. Professional. Trustworthy.

Team Agnew Updates!

HIGHLIGHTS ON WHAT WE'VE BEEN UP TO THAT YOU CAN FIND ON OUR FACEBOOK & INSTA PAGE

@agnewequine



STEPH SHARPLES
JOINED OUR OFFICE TEAM THIS SUMMER



NOMINATED
FOR VET PRACTICE OF THE YEAR FOR THE MIDLANDS



RAINBOW BRIDGE
REMEMBRANCE DAY
HAD OWNERS SHARE MANY MEMORIES



LEEK SHOW
STAND AND SPONSORSHIP WAS A GREAT SUCCESS!



The CMA Review: Our Thoughts

You have likely read headlines about the the Competition and Markets Authority (CMA) looking into how vet businesses operate. The investigation covered vets who treat household pets such as dogs, cats and rabbits, but the questions it raised are ones we hear from horse owners too: Are costs clear? Do I understand what I'm paying for? Who actually owns my vet practice? They're fair questions, and we'd like to answer them openly.

Our Take as an Independent Practice

Agnew Equine has been locally owned since 2001. Decisions about how we work, what we charge and how we look after clients are made by the people you actually deal with, not by a head office and we'd much rather talk about costs before treatment than have anyone surprised afterwards.

Our vets and office team are happy to talk through your options, so you can feel confident in the choices you make, and we can provide you with verbal or written estimates. For more complicated cases, we aim to discuss the likely routes and costs at the start, so you can make decisions that suit both your horse and your budget.

Why Ambulatory Vet Costs Look the Way They Do

We bring the practice to your yard. That's a real advantage for you and your horse, and it means we don't have a clinic to support - but there are still many (and rising) costs that are easy to overlook:

- ✓ Vehicles, fuel, maintenance and the time spent driving between yards across Staffordshire, Cheshire and Derbyshire.
- ✓ A team of vets and office staff to pay, recruit, train and support, so we can cover a wide area and be there when you need us.
- ✓ A base for our office team with phone, internet services and secure storage for medicines and supplies.
- ✓ Medicines and supplies both kept in stock and carried in every vehicle, which must be bought, stored correctly, kept in date and replaced, whether or not they are used.
- ✓ Mobile technology for our team and mobile diagnostic equipment that needs buying, maintaining, replacing and updating.
- ✓ Insurance for our vehicles, equipment, premises and professional work.



Pectigus

As the weather turns and routines change, a happy gut matters more than ever.

Our Gastric Support Formula is the supplement our clients reach for most, and it's easy to see why.

It helps maintain optimum gut health and function, and promotes healthy digestion and absorption of the nutrients in your horse's feed.

It's suitable for all horses and foals, and it's an ideal addition for horses in intense training, competition or rehabilitation. It's also Competition Safe (UK), so you can use it with confidence.

Price: £125.99 for 3KG

Visit:

www.horsevets.co.uk/our-shop

In full transparency, prices for a selection of common requests are on our website here: www.horsevets.co.uk/about-us/prices/ and our final fees are based on the service provided, the time spent, the medication supplied and the materials used. For routine care, our Saver Day offer on vaccinations, dentals and general exams (fixed price, including the visit fee) is a good way to plan ahead.

We understand why the CMA's findings struck a chord with so many people. We work hard to keep our prices fair and we believe they offer good value for the services we provide. We'd much rather you felt able to ask than worry in silence. If you'd like to understand how a fee is determined, or you're weighing up your options for a visit or procedure, please don't hesitate to contact our team.

Winter Is Coming: Looking After Your Older Horse

As the evenings draw in and the weather turns, older horses are often the first to show us that winter is on its way. A bit of stiffness on a frosty morning or a few lost pounds can be easy to put down to "just getting older", but it's worth taking a closer look.

What to watch for

Stiffness that is slow to ease, particularly after a cold night or time stood in the stable, can point to arthritis. Weight loss or a change in topline can be harder to spot under a rug, so run your hands over your horse regularly and keep an eye on body condition.

Coat changes are another big clue. If your horse is slow to shed in summer, has a coat that looks longer or curlier than usual, or is sweating more than you'd expect, these can all be signs of PPID (also known as Equine Cushing's). Other signs include a pot belly, losing muscle along the back, drinking and weeing more, and repeated bouts of laminitis.

Free PPID testing is available now

PPID is a hormonal condition that is common in older horses and ponies, and it can be managed well once it's diagnosed. Diagnosis starts with a simple blood sample.

Boehringer Ingelheim's Care About Cushing's initiative now runs free* testing windows only in spring and autumn, and we're in the autumn window right now. Free* initial PPID diagnostic testing is available for a limited time through October. If you've been putting off getting your horse checked, this is the time to act, as the free* testing won't be available again until next spring.

How to book

Get in touch to book your appointment. Please make sure your voucher is requested before or during the visit so it can be submitted alongside the blood sample, or it will be too late.

*Free ACTH laboratory fees only. Other charges will apply.

