

OCEVS NEWS

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Equine Medical Insurance

Online Pharmacy

Year End Savings!

The online store is having some great end of the year savings! They are currently offering up to \$81 off products with rebates and instant savings!

Check out all the savings at

ocequine.vetsfirstchoice.com

Facebook/Instagram

Visit our Facebook page [Orange County Equine Veterinary Services](#) to discover interesting articles and instantly receive alerts to important changes in the veterinary world that could affect you and your horse. Follow us on Instagram at [ocequinevetservices](#) to see what adventures Dr. Kat, Brianna and Denin are up to! ~

Owning a horse for business or personal use is a significant investment. While we all hope we never have to use it, having equine insurance could make a life or soundness saving medical procedure affordable.

There are several types of equine insurance available. Make sure you are working with someone who is knowledgeable and can go over the policies with you in detail and explain the differences.



Types of Insurance

Mortality: This is basically life insurance for horses. These policies provide coverage in the event your horse dies from a covered illness, accident, or injury.

Loss of Use: In the event your horse becomes sick or injured to the point he can no longer be used for the intended purpose you purchased him for (usually riding), the insurance company will pay out a predetermined sum, which is agreed upon by you and the insurance company. Generally it is required that you also have major medical insurance in order to take out a loss of use policy.

Major Medical: This type of insurance is very similar to the major medical insurance for humans. The purpose is to offset veterinary costs. These policies cover diagnostic procedures, surgery, medications, and veterinary visits associated with an illness or injury. There is usually a deductible for each incident and all have a limit on the amount the policy will cover per incident per year per horse. Major Medical policies are reviewed by the insurance company's underwriters each year.

Surgical: These policies are used in the event your horse needs an operation. Unfortunately they don't cover the cost of the hospital stay but they do cover costs directly related to the surgery, such as the surgeon's fee and the anesthetics used. This is most often used for colic surgery.

Winter Vaccine Time!

January Vaccinations:

- **Flu/Rhino**
- **Eastern-Western Encephalitis/Tetanus**
- **Panacur Dewormer**

It's winter vaccine time! For the January 2017 vaccine clinics we will be doing the **Flu/Rhino (F/R)** and Eastern-Western Encephalitis (sleeping sickness) and Tetanus (EWT) vaccinations. Horses become infected with the **Tetanus** bacteria found in soil most commonly through a cut, scratch, or wound. The bacteria produces a toxin, that causes severe muscle stiffness, also known as "lockjaw." Tetanus can often cause horses to be unable to eat or drink which results in death. **Eastern-Western Encephalitis**, also known as "Sleeping Sickness", is transmitted to horses through the bite of an infected mosquito. This disease has a high mortality rate of 95% in unvaccinated horses. Those that do survive often have residual neurological issues, because of this, AAEP recommends EWT be one of the vaccines your horse receives every year.

If your horse hasn't had a fecal test done within the last 12 months this is a good time to check their fecal egg count (FEC). Veterinarians use the FEC and other factors to develop optimum parasite treatment plans - Some horses may require as few as two dewormings a year, some up to 4 a year. ~

Check our website for vaccine clinic times and dates!!!

Personal Liability: This policy protects you in the event your horse injures someone or damages property.

Supplement Guarantees: Platinum Performance and SmartPak offer programs to cover colic surgery if your horse is on one of their supplements and you follow their recommended annual wellness requirements.

Things to Consider:

Make sure to ask questions when looking at the different policy options. Some good questions to ask are:

- How much is my annual premium?
- Does the policy have exclusions?
- What is the deductible?
- What is the percentage paid on each claim I file?
- Which company underwrites the policy?
- How long has the company been in business? (10 years or more is a good answer)

Understanding all of your options is very important in deciding if insurance is right for you and your horse. It can also give you peace of mind knowing you and your equine pal are covered in the event of an unexpected medical condition.



Whats New?

Did you know you can now text or send pictures to the office number at 949-472-0501?! Text capabilities are the newest way OCEVS is always keeping you in the loop and make communications as easy as possible!

Nutrition Center

Keeping the Energy Down During Those Cool Winter Days..

Although Southern California is not especially known for its snowy conditions and subfreezing temperatures, the weather does change enough for our equine partners to feel the effects of our own winter-less wonderland. We may notice a little initial pep to their step and even a frisky response to a early morning training session.

Even the most well trained horses, in the perfect routine, will occasionally "feel their oats" in the cooler winter climate. Although a bit more exercise is always a great way to work them out of their excess energy, there are also some nutritional changes that can help put the "chill" in their chilly weather antics.

- **Omega-3 fatty acids** are well known to be an excellent source of healthy fat, that will allow your horse to retain that well bodied and glossy look without supplying the extra energy boost that alfalfa hay and oats often come with. Some equine nutritionists have also found that supplementing your horses with a rich omega-3 fatty acid will also have a calming effect when added appropriately to the diet. Freshly ground or stabilized ground flax seed is a popular choice among horse owners and contains 40% fat. It can supply a significant amount of omega-3 fatty acids to a horses diet when fed on a daily basis.
- Also readily available to horse owners is a wide range of specialty **supplements** that advertise the ability to "calm" your horse. While many are effective, there should always be caution when deciding what supplement is appropriate for your horse and situation. Speaking with your veterinarian should always be the first step in choosing such a supplement. They often have a great knowledge base it what brands and products are most effective and reputable. Caution should be taken as well in making sure you are following the instructions carefully. Magnesium is a common ingredient in many of these supplements, and while rare, overdosing is a harmful possibility for your horse.

Overall, there are many options for helping to bring down the cool weather energy gain your horse acquires this winter. For more information regarding Omega-3s or calming supplements "The Horse .com" is a great source. Be smart and make sure you are doing your research and speaking with your veterinarian or a certified equine nutritionist before making any changes. ~



Happy Holidays From OCEVS

We at Orange County Equine Veterinary Services would like to extend our wish for all of our clients and their beloved horses, donkeys, mules, ponies and all of their other furry friends a most cheerful and wonderful holidays and New Year!

We hope your days are full of merriment and delight. And that you experience the joy and hopefulness of the approaching New Year. May it be filled with happiness, good health and some well deserved relaxation!

All of our love and cheer!



*Dr. Katherine, Denin
and Brianna*

Please Note:

In respect of the holiday and New Year the office hours will change on the following days:

December 26- Closed

January 2- Closed

Emergency Calls will of course always be available 24/7 via calling our office line at 949-472-0501 and following the Emergency/Urgent Call prompts.