

Comstock

EQUINE HOSPITAL



How To Fill Your Horse's Prescription

We have multiple options when it comes to filling your horse's prescription. In addition to filling prescriptions in the office, we offer a discount pharmacy on our webpage as well as Vet Source, a direct-from-the-manufacture website. We will also fill a prescription from an outside online pharmacy.

With any prescription medication, there must be a current veterinary-client-patient-relationship (VCPR). All prescriptions will be verified with the horse's veterinarian prior to fulfillment.

If you have questions in regards to filling your prescription, please do not hesitate to contact your veterinarian. 🐾

What's In a Name?

You may have noticed some name changes in our Comstock staff. Dr. Kristi Ruby is now Dr. Kristi Stone, and Dr. Christy Copeland is now Dr. Christy Trinidad. While it can be confusing, our amazing office staff can help direct you to the right doctor.



6TH ANNUAL SPRING HORSE EXPO

Saturday, May 12th

10am - 2pm • Bartley Ranch

The Spring Horse Expo is back for a sixth year! Join us for a day of local horse organizations, local vendors, and breed and discipline demonstrations. See our Facebook page for more information on participating groups and businesses.

If you are interested in having a booth or participating in the demonstrations, email us at office@comstockequine.com. 🐾

Acupuncture: It's More than Just the Qi

Kristi M. Stone DVM

Certified Veterinary Medical Acupuncturist



Acupuncture is a well-known ancient Chinese treatment for many ailments in both humans and animals. Veterinary acupuncture has been in practice in China for over 2,000 years but has continued to gain popularity in the United States over the last ten years. Acupuncture is defined as the stimulation of specific points on the body, using a specific technique in order to create overall body hemostasis. There are 361 human acupoints and 173 equine acupoints. Acupuncture can also be used

in our goat and cattle patients as well. Acupuncture is not just placing needles randomly throughout the horse, but rather a neuroanatomical approach to placing needles at specific local points, musculotendinous junctions, and near neurovascular bundles.

When performing equine acupuncture a complete myofascial exam is performed prior to placing the needles. Since our equine patients can't tell us what is sore or hurting, we use the myofascial exam to lead us to these conclusions. Horses are also very prone to compensation pain. Meaning if their hocks or stifles hurt, we often see muscle soreness in other areas of the body. Acupuncture can be used in a large variety of scenarios including but not limited to: treating musculoskeletal and neuromuscular disorders, poor performance, reproductive issues, colic, circulatory and lymphatic issues. A few common ailments that we commonly use acupuncture for are chronic pain such as osteoarthritis, acute pain such as laminitis, post surgical pain management, uterine clearance in broodmares, and overall increased performance.

After the myofascial exam and Western medicine exam, acupuncture needles are placed. The needles are placed along meridians in the body, in order to influence the qi (pronounced chi). Acupuncture then has multiple effects on the body. There are local effects where the needles stimulate the nerve fibers in the skin and local tissues. This will increase blood flow and aid in healing to the local area. Acupuncture can stimulate myofascial trigger points. These are points of taught, tight bands which are common in our performance horses. Acupuncture helps to release these taught bands and tight surrounding muscles. One of the main mechanisms through which acupuncture helps to relieve pain is by sending signals to the spinal cord. Pain is then reduced in any area of the body that is supplied by the spinal cord segment and related nerves which are being stimulated.

Electroacupuncture is an adjunct treatment to dry needle acupuncture. This is where an electrical stimulation is attached to the already in place needles to provide additional electrical input. Most horses tolerate electroacupuncture well, but there are some patients that do not. With both dry needling and electroacupuncture, the needles are left in place for an average of 20-30 minutes depending on the patient.

The most important thing to remember is that although acupuncture can have a profound effect on your animals, it is important to have your veterinarian perform an overall medical exam prior to starting treatment. Whether you are looking for an increase in performance or augmentation to treating conditions like laminitis or reproductive disorders, acupuncture in conjunction with Western medicine is the best complete approach to treating the whole horse. If you have any questions about whether acupuncture would benefit your animals, please do not hesitate to ask. 🐾

Recommended Equine Vaccines

Kelsey M. Tanner DVM

Vaccines are some of the most effective tools we have to protect your horse's health. Since their introduction, they have saved countless horses' lives and slowed the spread of many diseases. Vaccines work by training the immune system to identify and target disease-causing agents. The time for spring vaccines is approaching; below you can find out more information about the diseases against which we recommend protecting your horses.

Eastern Equine Encephalitis/Western Equine Encephalitis (EEE/WEE)

These viruses are vectored by mosquitos and other blood sucking insects which move the virus from wild birds and rodents (which act as natural reservoirs) to horses and less frequently to humans. The viruses manifest as neurologic disease, and Eastern Equine Encephalitis has a mortality rate that approaches 90%. While all horses are susceptible to these diseases, research has shown that younger horses are at higher risk. We recommend vaccinating for EEE/WEE prior to mosquito season annually.

West Nile

West Nile Virus is another disease that is vectored by mosquitos and can be passed to horses, humans, and other mammals. Nevada had several cases of West Nile in both horses and humans last year. The virus causes neurologic disease that can be fatal, and it can have lasting effects even if the horse survives the acute illness. Often paired with EEE/WEE, we vaccinate for West Nile prior to mosquito season annually.

Tetanus

Tetanus is caused by a bacterial toxin that gains access to the body and causes a progressive rigid paralysis. Common routes of entry include lacerations, surgical incisions, fresh umbilical sites in foals, and the reproductive tracts of mares. Spores are produced by *Clostridium tetani*, which can survive in the environment for years. They are commonly found in the soil and even in many horses' manure. All horses are at risk for this disease, so it is important that they are vaccinated annually and boosted at the time of injury.

Influenza

Influenza virus is one of the most common infectious diseases of the respiratory tract of horses. It is highly contagious, and can be spread by aerosolized droplets, which are dispersed through coughing. Outbreaks are commonly seen when horses are comingled. Vaccines provide 6 months of protection so this vaccine is most commonly administered twice a year.

Equine Herpes Virus 1 + 4 (Rhinopneumonitis)

Equine Herpes Virus 1 and 4 are viruses that cause respiratory infection, and less commonly neurologic disease. They can also cause abortion in pregnant mares. These viruses are spread via nasal secretions either through horse- to- horse contact, or by horses coming into contact with objects or people that then carry the virus and act as a source of infection. Additionally, it can be spread via placenta. Vaccination is recommended at 6 month intervals for at risk horses.

Rabies

Rabies Virus is a rare disease of horses but is fatal if contracted. Exposure occurs through the bite of an infected bat, raccoon, skunk, or fox. Between six and 20 bats test positive in Nevada each year, so the risk to infect horses is definitely present. Because rabies can infect humans, it has considerable public health significance.

Strangles

Strangles is an upper respiratory disease caused by infection of the bacteria *Streptococcus equi* subspecies *equi*. Infection results in nasal discharge, swelling and abscessation of the throat latch area, and high fevers. Young horses are particularly susceptible, but all horses can contract strangles. It is *highly* contagious and spread through nasal and oral secretions. Vaccination is not recommended for 2-5 years following an outbreak due to increased risk of adverse reactions. Be sure to discuss risk factors with your veterinarian before administration of this vaccine. 🐾

FALL VACCINE CLINIC SCHEDULE

AREA	DAY	DATE
Washoe Valley 1	Tues	6-Mar
Washoe Valley 2	Sat	10-Mar
Washoe Valley 3	Wed	21-Mar
Washoe Valley 4	Tues	3-Apr
Washoe Valley 5	Thurs	6-Apr
Washoe Valley 6	Sat	14-Apr
SW Reno 1	Wed	7-Mar
SW Reno 2	Sat	17-Mar
SW Reno 3	Thurs	22-Mar
SW Reno 4	Tues	27-Mar
SW Reno 5	Wed	4-April
SW Reno 6	Sat	21-April
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 1	Thurs	8-Mar
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 2	Tues	20-Mar
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 3	Thurs	5-April
Mt. Rose/Pleasant Valley 4	Sat	28-April
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 1	Tues	6-Mar
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 2	Thurs	22-Mar
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 3	Wed	28-Mar
Lemmon/Antelope Valley 4	Sat	24-Mar
Spanish Springs 1	Thurs	8-Mar
Spanish Springs 2	Tues	20-Mar
Spanish Springs 3	Sat	31-Mar
Spanish Springs 4	Wed	4-April
North Valleys 1	Thurs	15-Mar
North Valleys 2	Tues	27-Mar
Golden/Sun Valley 1	Tues	13-Mar
Golden/Sun Valley 2	Wed	28-Mar
Carson/Dayton 1	Tues	3-Mar
Carson/Dayton 2	Thurs	29-Mar
Toll Rd/VC Highlands 1	Thurs	15-Mar
Toll Rd/VC Highlands 2	Tues	24-Mar
West Reno/Verdi-Mogul 1	Wed	14-Mar
West Reno/Verdi-Mogul 2	Thurs	29-Mar
Palomino Valley 1	Mon	19-Mar
Palomino Valley 2	Mon	9-April
Gardnerville 1	Mon	12-Mar
Gardnerville 2	Fri	6-April
Minden 1	Mon	26-Mar
Minden 1	Fri	13-April
Stagecoach/Silver Springs	Fri	23-Mar

SPRING CLINIC PRICES

Farm Call	20
Physical/Wellness Exam	20
West Nile - EWT	40
Rhino-Influenza	33
Strangles I.N.	35
Rabies	21
Deworm	17-24
Deworm (Foal/Mini)	14
Fecal Exam	23
Clean Sheath	40
Sedation - Starts At	45
Coggins	32
Health Certificate (First 2 Horses)	45
Health Certificate Additional Horse	15

*Prices of dewormers vary depending on what deworming strategy your horse requires.

*A 10% discount will be applied to owners with 5 or more horses, and the farm call fee will be waived. Not applicable with any other discount.

**Manufacturer's Immunization Support Guarantee: The vaccine company will pay for diagnostic & treatment costs up to \$5000.00 for your horse if he or she has been vaccinated by one of our doctors and becomes infected by West Nile, Influenza, Tetanus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and/or Western Equine Encephalitis within one year of vaccination. This guarantee excludes Strangles and Rhino virus. **



**YOUR HORSE
NEEDS A
DENTAL EXAM
EVERY YEAR!**

Dentistry Pricing

We are offering our dentistry prices at \$170 plus sedatives. Sheath cleanings may be added for the discounted price of \$40.

\$170.00

We are continuing the Dental Health Maintenance Plan. Any horse that has dentistry performed annually will receive the discounted price of \$125 plus sedatives. This plan is ideal for horses that require more frequent dentistry.

\$125.00

To best service our clients, all of our doctors have received extensive training and continuing education opportunities in the field of equine dentistry.

The discounted price includes:

-  Sedation Examination
-  Full Mouth Speculum Examination
-  Dental Equilibration (performed with hand & power tools)

COMSTOCK EQUINE HOSPITAL

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Health
CHRONICLE

