

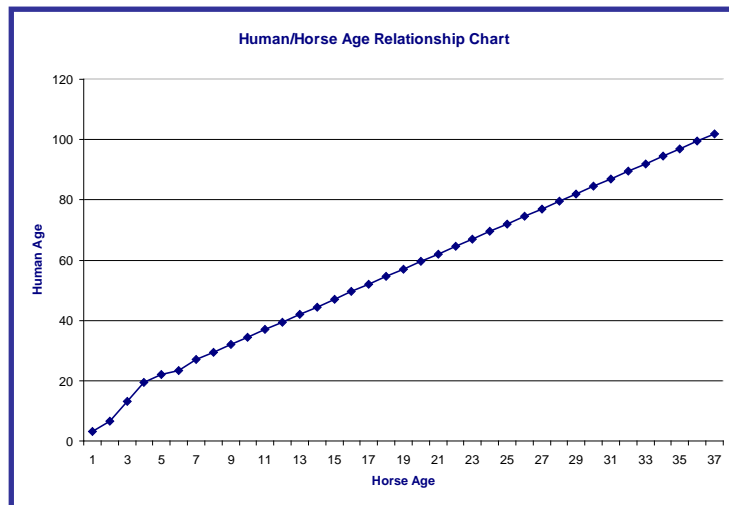
Fall 2003 Comstock Health Chronicle

Age Relationship Chart:

Pfizer Animal Health has created an Age Relationship Chart that shows the correlation between the stages of life for humans and horses. Beginning at birth, a horse ages 6.5 years for each human year until puberty. Once a horse reaches the beginning of its 4th year, that rate slows to 2.5 years for each human year. So, a 2-year-old colt is equivalent to a 13-year-old boy (that explains a lot, doesn't it?), a 22-year-old horse is equivalent to a 67-year-old human, and a horse that reaches a ripe old age of 36 would be celebrating its 102nd birthday if it was a human.

The chart was released by Pfizer Animal Health and was originally published in the April edition of Journal of Equine Veterinary Science. Pfizer surveyed equine veterinarians in order to produce the chart. Dan Kramer, equine market manager at Pfizer, said the chart is intended to help horse owners better relate to and understand the health issues that their horses may experience at each stage of life.

Pfizer is best known for their product Strongid C and the equine wellness program, PreventiCare, that provides reimbursement up to \$5000 for horses that require colic surgery while on the program. Enrolled horses must adhere to 6 minimum requirements of wellness care provided by their veterinarian: annual physical examination, annual dental examination, appropriate immunizations, nutritional counseling, twice-yearly ivermectin treatment, and daily use of Pfizer's Strongid C or Strongid C 2X.



Leaving Town?

If you are leaving town and someone else is caring for your horse, we encourage you to stop by the clinic and fill out a Consent and Authorization form. This form allows another person to make decisions regarding the health and welfare of your horse and gives us permission to treat your horse based on that person's decisions. Be sure that you and your caretaker have discussed all possible scenarios, from a simple laceration to colic surgery, so that your caretaker can make a decision in an emergency if you cannot be contacted.

We also recommend completing one of these forms if you would like your trainer or barn manager to make decisions or seek treatment for your horse any time you are not available.