



Northeast Pennsylvania Equine Clinic, L.L.C.

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Prescription Medications

Northeast Pennsylvania Equine Clinic, LLC has extended trust in dispensing to you a prescription medication for your horse. Federal law governs the conditions under which prescription medications may be dispensed. (A copy of the law is attached.) In accordance, we must ask that you comply with each of the following conditions:

- 1) **Dr. Johnson or her associate veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the condition and the care of the horse** through medically appropriate and timely visits.
- 2) **This drug is to be administered only to a horse owned by you.** If the owner of a horse under your care requests you to administer medication on his or her behalf, he or she must provide written permission and release of liability to you with a copy to our office.
- 3) **The patient is to be given only the prescribed dose by the prescribed route of administration.** Increasing the dose or frequency of administration does not give increased effectiveness but increases the risk of harmful side effects. Dr. Johnson will provide you with dosing instructions appropriate for your individual horse.
- 4) **Keep an accurate record of every dose given and as well as changes in the horse's condition.**

Instructions for Specific Medications Dispensed or Prescribed

Acepromazine:

Give a single intramuscular prescribed dose only when sedation is needed. Allow a full 20 minutes of quiet, undisturbed time in the stall for tranquilization to take effect.

Banamine (Flunixin Meglumine):

- 1) Take your horse's temperature, pulse and respiratory rate and check gum color and refill time, gut sounds and manure BEFORE giving Banamine. Record and report this information to our on-call veterinarian. (Office 570-727-2868; Cell Phone 607-727-5405).

Buscopan:

Give a single intramuscular dose (1cc per 100 lbs.) for first aid for colic or for choke.

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Instructions for Specific Medications (Continued)

Banamine continued:

- 2) If our doctor is not immediately available, leave a message on the office answering machine with your name, phone number, name of the horse, and a description of your horse's condition and time of administration.
- 3) Give one dose only. Discuss follow-up care recommendations with the doctor.
CAUTION: Banamine may give you a false sense of security because of its pain-relieving properties. Many colic cases will need additional treatment which, if delayed, may have very costly and detrimental, possibly even fatal, consequences.

Bute (Phenylbutasone):

- 1) Call for veterinary assistance immediately if your horse is not bearing any weight on a limb as there may be a fracture. For less severe lameness, call for assistance if pain and swelling is not improving within two days.
- 2) Do not exceed five days of treatment without consulting with your veterinarian.

Dexamethasone:

- 1) Follow dosing instructions carefully. There are many potential side effects of corticosteroids including suppression of the body's ability to fight infection, impaired ability of the body to respond to stresses such as physical exertion, trauma, heat and surgery, delayed wound and fracture healing, loss of bone strength and density, retention of fluid and muscle wasting.
- 2) Watch for any signs of infection such as yellow or green mucous nasal discharge.
- 3) Dexamethasone will cause an increase in water consumption and urine production. Be sure to have water available for your horse at all times.
- 4) If you feel dosing beyond the prescribed course of treatment is needed for an ongoing problem, please call Dr. Johnson or her associate veterinarian for further dosing instructions.
- 5) It is imperative that patients on a course of corticosteroids not stop taking the drug abruptly. Be sure to follow the instructions for the gradual discontinuation of the drug carefully.

Please read further for the copy of the law in regards to prescription medications on the following page.

Thank you for your cooperation!!!

Regulations are codified in Title 21 of the CODE OF FEDERAL REGULATIONS².

Dispensing Veterinary Prescription Drugs

Since adequate directions for safe and effective lay use cannot be written for veterinary prescription drug products, such products can only be sold to or on the prescription or other order of a licensed veterinarian (Section 503(f)). Prior to being sold or dispensed, they must remain in the possession of a person or firm regularly and lawfully engaged in the manufacture, transportation, storage, or wholesale or retail distribution of veterinary prescription drug products. The drug products may be distributed only by persons or firms authorized by state and local laws. Sale (dispensing, shipping, or otherwise making available for use in animals) to a layperson of a veterinary prescription drug product may be made only by or on the bona fide prescription or other order of a licensed veterinarian. The FDA has interpreted the word “prescription” to apply only to the practitioner’s direction to a pharmacist. Because some states authorize persons other than pharmacists to dispense prescription drug products on a veterinarian’s instructions the term “other order” is used when instructions are for a legally authorized dispenser who is not a pharmacist. In both cases the instructions and their intent are the same and the dispenser may not dispense an Rx drug product without a veterinarian’s explicit authorization.

Sale of a veterinary prescription legend drug product to a layperson, except on a prescription or on order of a licensed practitioner, causes the product to be misbranded since it fails to bear adequate directions for lay use and does not meet all the requirements of the exemption, and subjects the seller to civil and/or criminal provisions of the Act.

A licensed veterinarian may legally use or dispense a veterinary prescription drug product only within the course of his/her professional practice where a *valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship* exists (see footnote at end). Veterinarians employed by drug manufacturers or distributors may not legally dispense prescription drug products to laypersons unless they meet the above criteria. Similarly, practicing veterinarians or their employees may not legally sell veterinary prescription drug products to walk-in customers unless the same criteria are met.

A valid veterinarian-client-patient relationship, as defined by the American Veterinary Medical Association is:

“An appropriate veterinarian-client-patient relationship will exist when: (1) the veterinarian has assumed the responsibility for making medical judgments regarding the health of the animal(s) and the need for medical treatment, and the client (owner or caretaker) has agreed to follow the instructions of the veterinarian to initiate at least a general or preliminary diagnosis of the medical condition of the animal(s). This means that the veterinarian has recently seen and is personally acquainted with the keeping and care of the animal(s), and/or by medically appropriate and timely visits to the premises where the animals are kept; and when (3) the practicing veterinarian is readily available for follow-up in case of adverse reactions or failure of the regimen of therapy.”