

Equine Newsletter Autumn 2016



Dr Serena Shanahan - B.A. DVM MRCVS

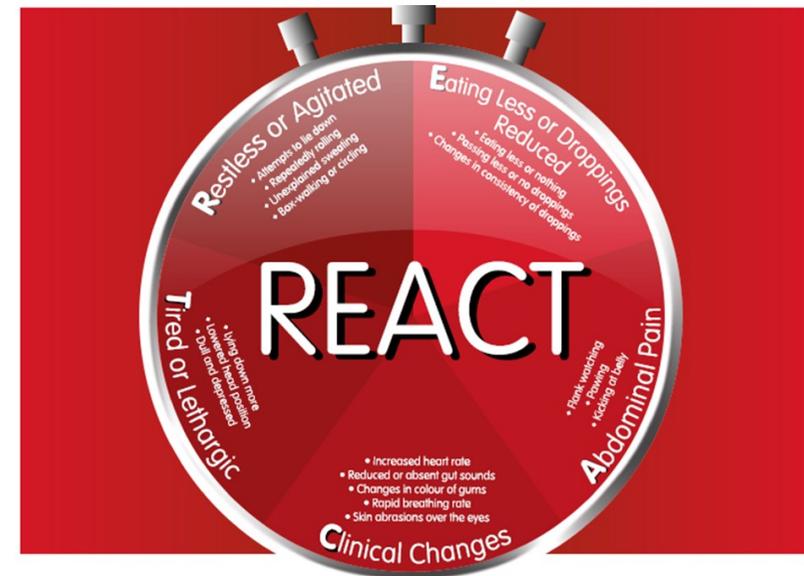
Serena, having previously graduated university with a degree in economics, decided to exchange a life in investment banking in Dublin and follow the dream to become a vet! She graduated from Szent István University, Budapest and completed an equine externship at the Philip Leverhulme Equine Hospital, Liverpool before joining the practice in September 2015. Serena has settled into Devon life and enjoys all aspects of mixed veterinary work here but has a keen interest in farm and equine medicine.



Rachel Forster - BVet Med MRCVS

Rachel qualified from the Royal Veterinary College, University of London in 1997 and joined Market Vets soon after. Her main interests are in farm work and equine practice. She is currently studying for her RCVS certificate in Sheep Health and Production. Rachel has kept horses all of her life, so she understands the challenges of horse ownership, she also gets out to a few competitions with her own horses when time allows! Rachel has also completed a course in Veterinary Acupuncture and provides acupuncture treatment for all species of animals, large or small.

www.marketvets.co.uk



REACT Now to Beat Colic

It's Tapeworm Time!

We recommend that all horses should receive a prophylactic tapeworm test or treatment once or twice a year in the autumn and /or spring according to risk. Whilst we can easily identify tapeworm eggs if they are present in a faeces sample for your horse, this is not a very accurate method of diagnosing if your horse needs a tapeworm treatment. Tapeworms only shed eggs occasionally, therefore, if we do see them they are a significant finding, but if the sample is negative it does not mean that your horse is free of this parasite.

We stock Equisal tapeworm test kits, which are very simple to use, and identify if your horse's immune system has reacted to the presence of tapeworms. The kits contain a special swab which you put inside your horse's mouth to collect a saliva sample. You send the test kit to the lab in the enclosed postage paid envelope and they send the results direct to us for interpretation. The kit is not suitable for use if you have treated your horse for tapeworms within the last 6 months. This test, is equivalent in efficacy to us blood sampling your horse to check for tapeworms.

The tapeworm test kits can be collected from the surgery, and are available at a discounted rate to our Equine Worm Scheme members.

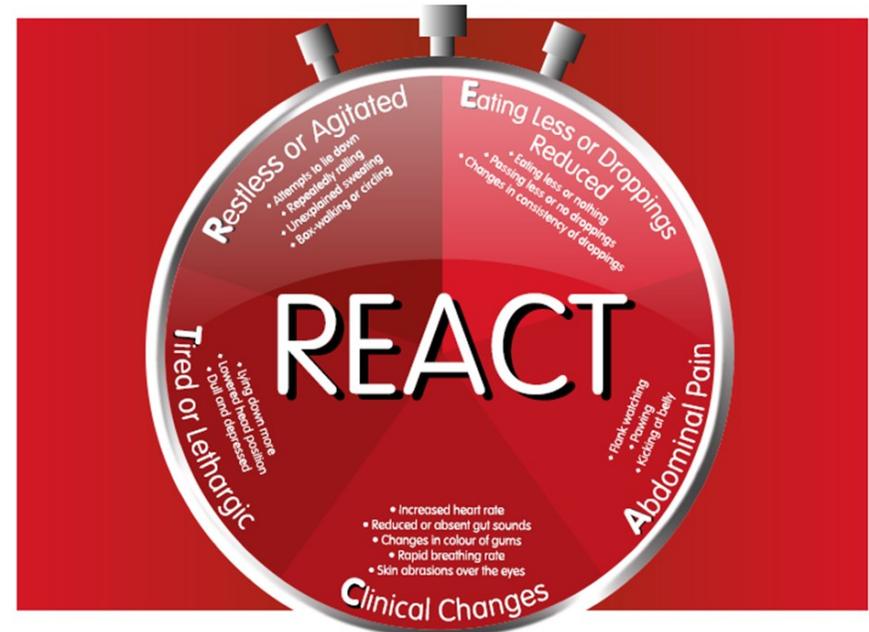
If you would prefer to carry out a prophylactic tapeworm treatment rather than a test, two active ingredients kill tapeworms – (a) pyrantel at a double dose or (b) praziquantal. Pyrantel also kills roundworms (but not encysted stages) and praziquantal is available either as a single ingredient (tapeworms only) or combined with ivermectin (tapeworms and roundworms).



For more information about tapeworm testing, worming treatments or our equine worming scheme, please speak to one of our equine vets.

REACT Now to Beat Colic

The British Horse Society and University of Nottingham have joined forces to launch the REACT Now to Beat Colic campaign, which aims to help horse owners recognise equine colic. We always seem to see more colic cases in the autumn and winter months, probably due to routine changes as horses are stabled during the cold wet weather. National research suggests that colic accounts for 1/3 of all emergency vet call outs to horses,



so most horse owners may need to identify colic in their horse at some time. Understandably, colic is a condition that most owners find very frightening so this new resource is an excellent source of reputable advice and information about the prevention and treatment of equine colic.

Please visit www.bhs.org.uk/colic to access this information resource.