First Aid is the immediate care given to the horse in the event of an accident or sudden illness, horses by nature are somewhat accident prone and suffer frequent injury. For reason it is important for the horseowner to have certain medical supply items readily available in the event of an emergency. These supplies should be kept together in an appropriate dust-tight container located in convenient locations. All items should be checked periodically to insure that they are in a usable condition.

Most of the recommended first-aide kit items can be obtained through a veterinarian or purchased at a drug store, feed store, or tack supply shop.

**Suggestions for First Aid Supplies**

1. Restraint Equipment
   - Nylon halter and cotton lead rope
   - Twitch
   - Hobbles
   - Cotton rope (20 ft)

2. Bandaging Supplies
   - 1 box 5 x 9 gauze pads
   - 1 box 3 x 3 inch gauze pads
   - 1 box non stick telfa pads to cover wounds

3. Medicines
   - Nitrofurazone salve
   - Nitrofurazone spray or powder
   - Furacin (solution or powder)
   - Neosporin
   - Eyewash
   - Antibiotic eye ointment
   - Epsom salts
   - Sodium Bicarbonate
What to do in an emergency:

- Calm and restrain horse.
- Check the entire horse for injury.
- Check the vital signs.
- Proceed with emergency medical treatment.

3. Antiseptic/Disinfectants

- Surgical soap
- Isopropyl Alcohol
- Nolvasan
- Betadine, (tamed iodine solution)

5. Other Supply Items

- Fly repellent
- Petroleum jelly
- Hand cream
- Noxema
- Kopertox

6. Instruments and Equipment

- Stethoscope
- Thermometer
- Pen light
- 10 cc, 20, 50 cc syringes I each)
- Disposable razor
- Bandage scissors
- Hemostat/Tweezers
- Clippers
- Sponge
- Sharp knife
- Plastic bucket
- Hoof tools - knife, nail puller, shoe puller rasp.

- 4 rolls - conforming or stretch gauze
- 4 rolls - 4 inch wide elastic bandage
- 4 rolls - 4 inch wide adhesive bandage
- 4 rolls - 2 inch wide elastic bandage
- 2 rolls - 2 inch wide adhesive bandage
- 1 roll - 1 pound of cotton
- padding: sheet cotton or quilted pads
- 1 roll disposable diapers
- 1 roll duct tape
- 1 roll electrician tape
- cotton swabs
- 4 track bandages

- Saline Solution (1 T. salt in 1 pint sterile water)
Call a veterinarian for conditions other than minor or superficial wounds.

Remember that a frightened or injured horse may forget its manners and become potentially dangerous to handle. Handlers should keep their own safety in mind.

**References:**


