



E.C.V.V.H. Equine News Bit

New injection for pain control

We now have a new nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) called Meloxicam.

Some interesting facts about this drug:

- It is an easy to give intra-muscular injection which can be dispensed to the owner.
- Studies show improvement in lameness scores within 6-12 hours.
- It lasts anywhere from 3-4 days.
- It is a nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) whose primary action is as a Cox 2 inhibitor.
- Compared to other NSAID's, Meloxicam has less of the following side effects:
 1. Kidney problems
 2. Gastrointestinal problems (primarily ulcers)
 3. Blood Clotting problems
- This injection can be repeated as needed.

We feel this can be of a benefit in those horses that:

- Are reluctant to eat food with medication in it.
- Are hard to administer medication by mouth.
- Have ulcer problems with the use of NSAIDS (Phenylbutazone or Banamine)
- Are traveling for several days and giving medications is difficult or prohibitive.

The medication comes in 2 bottles that are mixed to administer.

There will be 2 to 4 doses, depending on the amount given.

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