



Woodside & Woodside North Equine Clinic Equine Health Times

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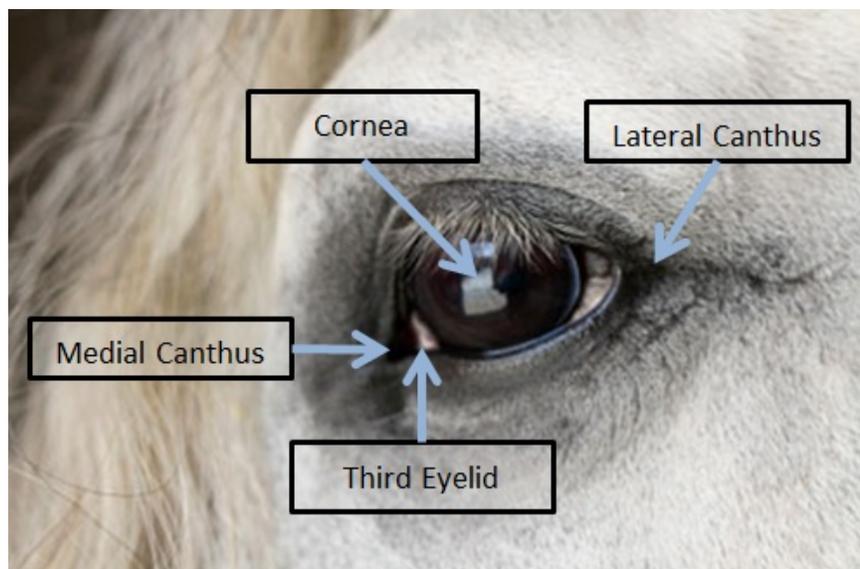
What is our staff up to?

Dr. True attended the Annual Veterinary Dental Forum in Monterey, CA and participated in Mentor Day for vet students at the VA-MD College of Veterinary Medicine

Dr. Hirsch attended a continuing education meeting on sacroiliac

Basics of an Ophthalmic Exam:

What your vet is doing when they're peeking into your horse's peepers



<http://viim.org/horse-eye-disease-uveitis-eru.php>

injection in Texas

Dr. Wolfe traveled to Japan to act as an event veterinarian for a FEI endurance competition

Dr. Anderson attended the annual ISELP meeting in Middleburg, VA

We're happy to have Lisa Bernard as a new scheduler!

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Have you ever wondered what a veterinarian is doing when they are examining your horse's eye? It may look like they're just shining a light and getting up close and personal with your horse but actually your vet is performing a comprehensive exam of the health and activity of the eye from the outside in.

Overall shape and contour of the face and eye

1. Do the eyes look symmetrical?
2. Are there any obvious defects of the surface of the eye, eyelids, or conjunctiva?
3. Are there any lumps, bumps, areas of pain along the facial bones and muscles?
4. When gentle pressure is applied to the eye over a closed eyelid, does it depress slightly and symmetrically on the right and left sides? Indicating whether there is something behind the eye

Testing nerve function and vision

1. Menace Response- can the horse see a hand or finger moving toward its eye?
2. Pupillary Light Reflex- do the pupils appropriately respond to a bright light (shrink)?
3. Palpebral Reflex- can the horse feel around their eye?
4. Dazzle reflex - does the horse have the ability to blink in response to bright light?
5. Vestibulocochlear reflex- does the horse maintain a line of vision when the head is moved in different directions? (Are the muscles that control the eye working appropriately?)

Fluorescein stain- a bright yellow/green liquid applied to the eye that adheres to defects in the cornea indicating an ulcer. Blue/UV light excites the stain molecules making defects more obvious to the veterinarian.

BONUS- the stain will merge with the horse's tears and run down the nasolacrimal duct. If no green liquid is apparent in the nose after 20 minutes, it may indicate a blocked duct

Magnified exam with an ophthalmoscope

1. Are the structures around the eye (third eyelid, conjunctiva, etc) normal? Is there any foreign material or inflammation?
2. Contour/clarity of the cornea and fluid in the front part of the eye
3. Iris- colored part of the eye- defects/irregularities? Changes in color?
4. Lens- clarity? any indications of cataracts? correct location/alignment?
5. Retina- defects in contour? normal vessels, color? is the optic nerve ovoid?

Examining the eye thoroughly is an important aspect of any wellness exam. An exam helps veterinarians catch potential problems or note findings that may be a variation of normal--these notes are great to have especially if a prepurchase exam is ever in the horse's future.

An ophthalmic exam is especially important for any eye-related concerns or emergencies. A number of different problems can present in a similar way, such as, tearing, keeping the eye closed, aversion to touching of the areas around the eye, and an exam by a veterinarian is crucial to determining the correct diagnosis and treatment plan.

Blog: Diaries of a Veterinary Intern

A peak into the life of a Woodside intern...

[Diaries of a Veterinary Intern](#)

CLIENT APPRECIATION NIGHT

Keep an eye out for our Client Appreciate Night coming this winter!

WEC and WNEC would be nothing without our outstanding clients. We're currently planning an evening to celebrate you all with food, drinks, prizes, and three talks about horse health.

Keep an eye out for a save the date, coming soon!

Our practice devotes its charitable giving efforts to the AAEP foundation. The foundation is committed to supporting education, research and benevolent efforts for horses and their caretakers. If you'd like more information or to donate to the Foundation you can visit the website at [AAEP Foundation](#).



Sincerely,

Woodside & Woodside North Equine Clinic