



# PATON & LEE

EQUINE VETERINARY SURGERY



The Talk about Laminitis (TAL) initiative was launched in 2012 to raise awareness of the previously under-recognised hormonal causes of laminitis. If your horse or pony is prone to laminitis it's important to know that although grass can be a trigger, up to 90% of laminitis cases are caused by an underlying hormonal disease. One of them, PPID (previously known as Equine Cushing's disease), is a major culprit in horses and ponies of 15 years of age and over. Since 2012, the Talk About Laminitis campaign has provided free\* PPID blood tests for over 47,000 horses and ponies in the UK which has helped vets and horse owners to rule PPID in or out of individual laminitis cases. Voucher codes for the free\* ACTH tests for new cases will be available at [www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk](http://www.talkaboutlaminitis.co.uk) from 1st June until 31st October 2017. **So act on your suspicions and talk to your vet about testing today.**

\* Laboratory test is free with a voucher for newly tested cases or cases that have previously been sampled and shown as being negative for PPID. Tests are run in batches on a Tuesday and Friday. A normal visit fee and sampling fee will apply – save money on your visit fee by booking on one of our half-price visit fee 'zone' days.

## Laminitis – A case a day in May!

While we're "Talking about Laminitis" please don't forget that we're right in the middle of the highest risk period for this horrible condition. Paton and Lee saw an average of one case every day this May! If your horse or pony has come out of the winter in condition score 3 or over, please take care to reduce the feed you give them as the calories they consume from the growing grass increases. With all the rain we've had in recent days, the grass is growing like crazy! You should be able to easily feel your horse's ribs and see them rippling as your horse moves.



## Get your Hack-on ... join the Brooke Hackathon



Lots of our clients have now signed up to the Brooke 'Hackathon' and there's still plenty of time to join in. Why not take on your own challenge for **Brooke – Action for Working Horses and Donkeys**? You'll have fun and get your horse fit while you're at it. Ride 100 miles in 100 days and raise £100 – you can either do the full 100 miles yourself, or get together with friends and tot up the total as a team. If you've only got a mini horse, there's the mini-hackathon just for you! By getting on your horse, horses in the UK could help reduce the immediate suffering of the world's most vulnerable working horses.

Sign up today at [www.thebrooke.org/get-involved/fundraise/find-an-event/myhackathon](http://www.thebrooke.org/get-involved/fundraise/find-an-event/myhackathon)

## Autologous Conditioned Serum (ACS)



As we continue to develop and offer new services for our clients, the practice is delighted to announce that we can now offer in-house autologous conditioned serum (ACS) treatments to help with certain lameness issues. ACS is a biological treatment commonly used in regenerative medicine. Its main indication is in the treatment of osteoarthritis, particularly in joints that have failed to respond to steroid injections.

The protocol for ACS production involves taking blood from your horse, which is then processed to produce a 'soup' of anti-inflammatory proteins (cytokines) that can then be directly injected back into the affected joint of the horse.

If you have any cases that you might think may benefit from this treatment, please feel free to contact the surgery on 01376 513369 for more information or to speak to one of our vets.

## Inkjet Cartridge Collection



We are still collecting used Inkjet printer cartridges to raise much needed funds for **Essex Horse and Pony Protection Society**. If you have any Inkjet printer cartridges (they're the ones with the gold dots on them) please hand them in at our Hoo Hall office, or give them to one of our vets when they visit. They will make huge difference to horses and ponies that are in desperate need of help



## Recommend a Friend for a Fiver



Throughout 2017 we're offering £5 off your vet's bill if you recommend a friend to use Paton and Lee. The offer is valid for any new clients you recommend, or returning clients who didn't use us throughout 2015 or 2016. **Just ask the person you're recommending to mention your name when they register with us.** We'll credit your account by £5 once they settle their first invoice – it's a simple as that. You can recommend as many people as you like, so all those £5's could easily add up!

## Join us Online

Over 4,400 clients have joined us on a Facebook page at [www.facebook.co.uk/patonandlee](http://www.facebook.co.uk/patonandlee) for all our latest news, advice and information. Make sure you don't miss a thing by liking and following our page today. You can also find us on Twitter and Instagram if they're more your style!

