

Pre Lamb vaccination

Pre-Lamb vaccination of ewes is one of the best investments you can make. Clostridial diseases such as pulpy kidney, tetanus, and navel ill are important diseases of lambs; pulpy kidney in particular will often strike the biggest, healthiest animals in the mob with little or no warning. Often the first indication of an outbreak is dead animals.

As clostridial spores are widespread in the environment, the only practical method of preventing disease is vaccination. Ewes should receive two doses 4-6 weeks apart followed by an annual booster within 4 weeks of lambing.



Previously unvaccinated ewes may be vaccinated at ram out and ram in and again within 4 weeks of lambing. The pre lamb booster will trigger production of colostral antibodies giving protection to the lamb against clostridial diseases for up to 12 weeks. Lambs will need their own vaccinations, ideally at weaning then 4-6 weeks later, for immunity lasting up to 12 months.

Contact Us

Give us a call for more information about our services and products

CHB Vets Ltd,
5 Northumberland St,
Waipukurau
pH 858 6555
chbvets@xtra.co.nz



CHB VETS LTD

Veterinary newsletter

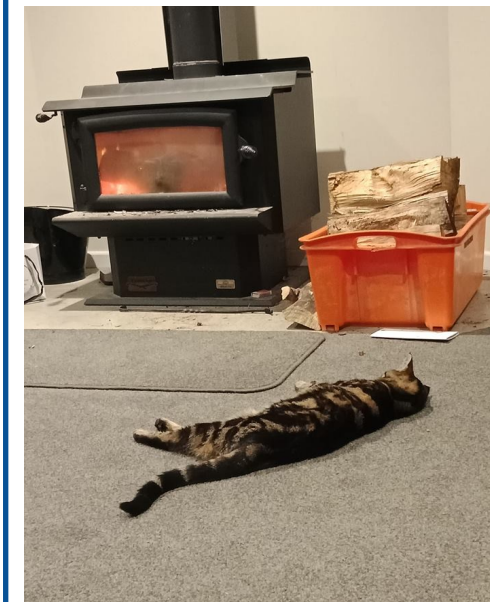
July 2019

Ageing cats

Many cats are suffering in silence from arthritis as they age.

Arthritis mainly results from wear and tear, and joint injury in cats which causes inflammation and degeneration of joints. It can occur in any joint in the legs and also along the spine.

Our feline friends are very good at hiding pain. Cats with arthritis more commonly show changes in behaviour rather than an obvious lameness.



Your observations at home are very useful in working out how your cat is feeling. A cat that has stopped jumping or seems to be walking stiffly may be suffering from arthritis. Cats suffering pain through their back may find it hard to get in suitable positions to groom properly. A decrease in grooming behaviour and a matted coat may be a sign of back pain. Inappropriate toileting can also be significant. Arthritic pain when forming a posture or when straining to pass poos may lead to reluctance to go and constipation, or going in the wrong places.

Regular vet check ups are a good idea especially as cats get older. Cats are good at hiding lameness and pain levels in the clinic as they tend to react differently out of their comfort zone. However a clinical examination along with your observations may suggest a cat is suffering with arthritis.

Once a diagnosis of arthritis has been reached there are several options available to help treat and manage the condition. In some situations anti-inflammatory and pain relief medication may be necessary. There are also diets available specially formulated for cats with joint disease. These have ingredients which help to repair joints and maintain them in as healthy a state as possible.

There is no reason for your cat to suffer in silence. Let them rediscover their inner kitten!

Sudden death in sheep

At this time of year, we often get cases where a number of sheep have suddenly died for no obvious reason.

With the cold weather, extra stress put onto sheep can cause underlying diseases to show up or to allow bacteria to cause disease. The weather by itself can cause stress as can parasites, feed shortages, lameness, pregnancy and shearing.

In a situation where sheep are dying, a post mortem can give a good indication of what may be causing the deaths and if any preventative measures are required. It must be a fresh animal for best chance of diagnosis.

While waiting for results, it is a good idea to try and reduce the stress that you can control. This includes moving sheep to a more sheltered paddock, spreading them out and providing more feed. Yarding and shearing are best delayed until the deaths have stopped and the sheep recovered.

It is easy to become panicky when you see dead sheep around. It may help to know that most of these conditions settle over a couple of weeks if you do some management changes.

In some situations, vaccination may be possible to prevent further deaths.

Definitely give us a call to discuss options and treatments and to organise post mortems of freshly dead animals.

Arthritis and your pet

Arthritis is simply an inflammation of the joint. But to understand the effects that inflammation has on a joint we firstly have to understand the anatomy. Every joint is made out of at least 2 bones – which are covered with a thin layer of cartilage. The cartilage creates a smooth surface so the bones can move against each other without friction. Joints are surrounded by a joint capsule, muscle and ligaments which support the joint and make movement possible. The space inside is filled with a sticky fluid that also lubricates and reduces friction.

Different problems can cause arthritis and thus inflammation.

All changes in the joint will eventually cause a breakdown of the cartilage – this always leads to bone rubbing on bone which is the painful part. Cartilage cannot be regrown so once it is gone ...its gone. On top of that, the irritation caused by bone rubbing on bone will increase the inflammatory process in the joint – which causes the joint fluid to become less sticky and thus less friction protective – more cartilage wears off - more bone is exposed and so on. Shortly said - once a Joint has some form of injury and an inflammatory process is started - there is no return and it will just get slowly worse. Thus stepping in early and slowing the process down is better than getting in at the end when it is a very painful process.

If joints are left alone – untreated – what would it look like after a few years of inflammation? Well the body has an amazing mechanism there. As mentioned – once the cartilage is gone – and bone touches bone – there will be constant pain. And because the body is not able to regenerate the cartilage – a mechanism will kick in to reduce the movement in the joint to stop the pain.

Bone will be built up around the edges of the joint, bridging over the joint space and eventually leading to a fused joint. What sounds great can take years in reality though and is accompanied by very painful episodes.

Box 1 Causes of Osteoarthritis:

- Excessive exercise throughout the animals live (work dog)
- Injury such as Cruciate rupture in the stifle, fracture of joint building bones
- Hereditary Issues such as Elbow or Hip Dysplasia
- Old age – normal wear and tear!!!!

diets, injectable joint supportive products, anti-inflammatory drugs, exercise modification and other lifestyle changes. 'Old age' is not a reason to live a painful life and we can help your pet be more comfortable in their latter years.

www.pethealthcare.co.za

Evolution of Osteoarthritis

1. Bone
2. Cartilage
3. Thinning of cartilage
4. Cartilage remnants
5. Destruction of cartilage

Pic Quizlet.com

Osteoarthritis in Pets

OSTEOARTHRITIS IN DOGS

ROYAL CANIN

CANINE HIP DYSPLASIA

NORMAL

SEVERE OSTEOARTHRITIS

1 Pelvis
2 Femoral head
3 Femoral neck
4 Femur

RUPTURED CRANIAL CRUCIATE LIGAMENT

1 Ends of ruptured ligament

PATELLA (KNEE CAP) LUXATION

1 Normal position of patella
2 Patella moves to the inside of the leg, occasionally laterally
3 Tibia tuberosity
4 Tibia rotates inwards

FRAGMENTED CORONOID PROCESS (FCP)

1 Ulna
2 Humerus
3 Radius

OSTEOCHONDROSIS OF THE PROXIMAL HUMERUS

1 Head of humerus
2 Great tubercle
3 Humerus
4 Scapula
5 Shoulder joint
6 Joint mouse
7 Bone necrosis
8 Neck of humerus

SPRAINS AND STRAINS

1 Inflammation
2 Disruption
3 Muscle
4 Tendon
5 Ligament
6 Stretch
7 Torn

STRAIN **NORMAL JOINT** **SPRAIN**

Suitable for every size of dog