

Laminitis



What is laminitis?

- Damage and inflammation of the tissue between the hoof and the underlying coffin bone.
- In severe cases can progress to founder, in which the hoof and coffin bone are separated and the coffin bone can rotate, leading to severe pain.
- Irreversible. Treatment is initiated to minimize further damage. Recovery outcomes vary widely.

What you can do to keep your horse healthy:

- Limit access to lush pasture, especially for high-risk horses (those with equine metabolic syndrome (EMS) or pituitary pars intermedia dysfunction (PPID)).
- Schedule regular farrier care to ensure hooves are properly balanced.
- Keep horses at a healthy weight.

Signs

Lameness
Reluctant to move
Shift weight
“Sawhorse stance”
Increased respiratory and heart rates

Transmission

Can be secondary to diseases such as EMS and PPID

Treatment

Irreversible
Pain management
Supportive care
Regular farrier care
Dietary management

**If your horse needs medical care, contact the Large Animal Clinic at (530) 752-1393.*