

Name: _____
Date: _____

ARTHRITIS HORSE HEALTH



Use the handout and **reliable** outside sources (websites, text book, library) to answer the questions below.

A. Vocabulary— describe each vocabulary word.

1. Gelding *A castrated male horse*
2. Conformation *How well all the parts work together and appear as a whole.*
3. Inflammation *The way a body reacts to infection, irritation, or injury; redness swelling and pain.*
4. lameness *Disabled so that movement is difficult or impossible.*

B. Answer the following

1. What are some of the side effects a horse may experience cause by arthritis?

Chronic pain, decrease in ability to eat, work, and enjoy retirement.

2. What is arthritis?

Inflammation of the articular surfaces of a joint.

3. What negative effects will the symptoms/side effects lead to?

Long term:

Breakdown of joint cartilage.

Short term:

lameness

4. What would a responsible owner do:

Treatment: *Non-steroidal anit-inflammatory drugs. Other treatment decisions should be made together with a vet.*

Diet: *Well balanced diet: 12-16% protein maintenance level calcium, .4-6.5% phosphorous– ration of 1.5:1*

Exercise, Stall, Etc: *Regular exercise, most of time spent in a pasture or paddock.*

5. What can cause arthritis? *Aging, Bad Conformation, Joint injury*

6. Why would it be important to know some Biology to handle this situation?

*Knowing the bone and muscle **structure** of your horse; Knowing how the **digestive system** will respond to treatment.*

7. What systems are dealt with, both before and during treatment?

Bone Structure, joints, digestion.

C. Answer each True/False question and correct each False answer.

1. Arthritis is more likely to effect younger horses: True False

False; Arthritis is more likely to effect older horses.

2. Horses joints are covered with a outside protective layer called the synovial membrane. True False

False; it is called the joint capsule

3. The synovial membrane lubricates the joint.

True

4. Arthritis effects tendons and ligaments:

True

5. Soybean meal is a good choice for additional protein.

True

D. List at least 4 careers involved and a description of each.

Examples:

1.

Veterinarian

2.

Breeder

3.

Owner

4.

Trainer