



KETTLE MORaine EQUINE HOSPITAL
&
REGIONAL EQUINE DENTAL CENTER
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Treatment of Chorioptic Mites in camelids:

It is important to note that currently available ivermectin injectables and topicals do not work well in these species as the physiological makeup of their skin is different than other ruminant/semiruminant species. *Chorioptes bovis* can be found on several species and all potential sources of infestation must be considered (cattle, horses, etc.).

Biosecurity is an important aspect of treatment and control! Premises should have dedicated quarantine areas for new additions to the herd, visiting animals and sick residents. Facility management is site specific and each premise should have a specific biosecurity plan in place. We take this very seriously and encourage owners and managers to arrange appointments with Dr. Gieche to design the best plans for their facility. Cost effective control and treatment begins before you have an expensive problem.

Treatment is customized to each unique situation including individual animal and premise management. Basic goals of treatment are the same; however methodology will vary from site to site.

- 1) Infected biomaterial must be treated/removed (Chorioptic mites can survive up to ~ 70 days off the host animal in bedding etc.).
- 2) Affected pens should be fed/watered etc. last to reduce exposure to unaffected areas on the premise.
- 3) Premises should be treated with Pyrethrin/permethrin insecticides weekly during treatment and control.
- 4) Fipronil should be applied to all camelids on the farm every 21 days for a minimum of 4 treatments. Application specifics should be discussed with Dr. Gieche *before treatment begins* (site and method of application). Medication may vary and none are 100% effective to date. Animals lacking any sign of infection often harbor the largest numbers of this parasite. Skin scrapings should be repeated before cessation of treatment protocols.
- 5) All camelids entering or exiting the farm should be treated with fipronil to help prevent the spread of this parasite. Animals returning from any off site events should be treated with fipronil before reentering the farm.

Counterfeit medications are becoming increasingly more common on the internet and via warehouse stores so we recommend you purchase medications from reputable licensed veterinarians only. Call us or visit our on line pharmacy at kmeh-redc.com.