

A silhouette of a horse's head and neck is the central focus, positioned in front of a sunset sky with soft orange and yellow clouds. The horse is facing left. In the background, there are silhouettes of trees and a wooden fence post on the right. The overall mood is peaceful and contemplative.

# RESPONSIBLE NSAID USE

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EQUINE CLINICS

# Equine NSAID Use

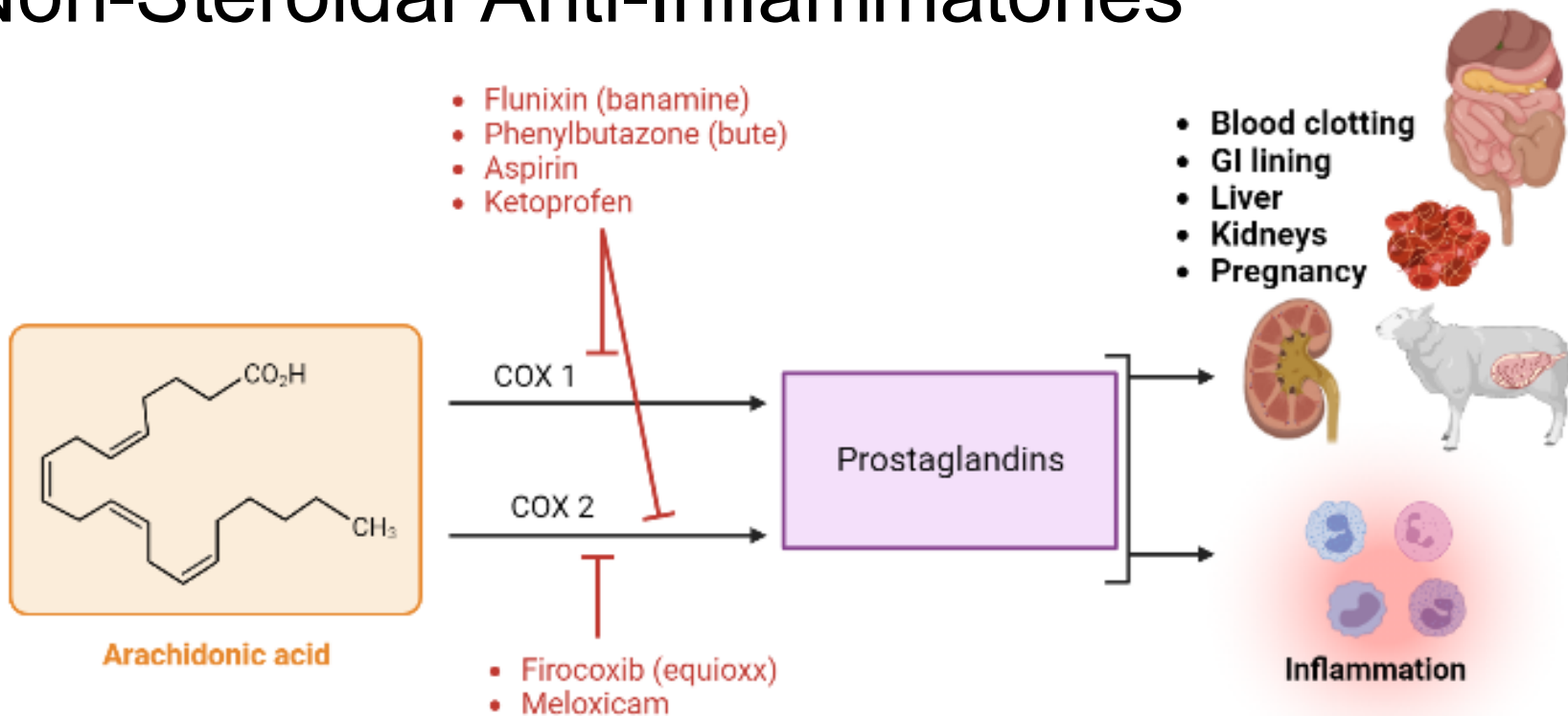
- What are NSAIDs?
- Risks and adverse effects
- Appropriate use
- Key takeaways

# Poll: How confident are you in selecting and giving NSAIDs?

- a. Very confident
- b. Somewhat confident
- c. Somewhat unsure
- d. Very unsure
- e. What's an NSAID?



# Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatories



# Major Effects

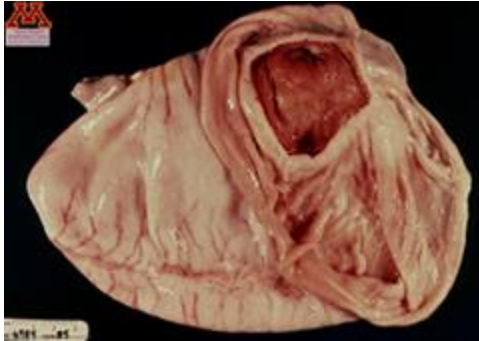
- Action in the central nervous system and peripheral tissues
- Reduces inflammation and stops pain signals = improved comfort
- “Anti-endotoxic”
- Narrow safety margin
- Many unsafe for neonates
- Route given is IMPORTANT



<http://ps://www.horseandman.com/medical/clostridial-myositis-neve-give-a-banamine-shot-into-the-muscle/08/12/201>



<http://beva.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/j.2042-3292.2002.tb00174.x>



<http://open.n.lib.umn.edu/swinedisease/chapter/gastric-ulcer>



<https://www.vettimes.co.uk/article/improving-fluid-the-physio-effectiveness-in-horses/>

# Common Equine NSAIDs

- Flunixin: oral, IV
- Phenylbutazone: oral, IV
- Firocoxib: oral
- Diclofenac: topical

*NSAID “cousin”: acetaminophen*



# Monitoring NSAIDs

- Water Intake
  - Normal = 5 - 10% bodyweight
- Manure character
- Colic signs / inappetence
- Urine color
  - Red, brown = abnormal
  - Gold, yellow = normal

Normal



Abnormal



<https://feedxl.com/horse-manure-score-chart/>

# Responsible Administration

- Veterinary direction
  - Appropriate dose & route
  - Controlling high fevers
  - Frequency
  - Effect: in 30-60 minutes (oral)
- Bloodwork
  - Kidneys: BUN and Creatinine
  - Protein markers
  - Hydration status



<https://www.tdln.com/ne/vet/veterinary-com-pounding/>



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# When to **Steer Clear** of NSAIDs

- Have not called your vet
- Bute: not for pregnant / lactating mares
- **Doses too close together**
- **Taking other NSAIDs**
- Dehydrated/not drinking
- Diarrhea
- Not eating
- History of kidney disease



<http://ps://www.horseandhound.co.uk/news/new-study-reveals-colic-risk-427376>

# Performance Horses

- NSAID use regulated for competing animals
- Welfare is paramount
- United States Equestrian Federation (USEF)
  - Number of NSAIDs using
  - When last given
  - Specific for each drug
- FEI, WPRA, NCHA



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# Questions?

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