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## What happens during a chiropractic exam?

First, a complete history will be taken. Next, a static exam of the horse's spine and muscles will be performed to look for areas of pain, sensitivity or heat. A gait analysis will look for any asymmetry in the horse's movement. Motion palpation is then performed, focusing on the joints of the spine. This allows the doctor to find joints that are not moving correctly. These are called Vertebral Subluxation Complexes (VSC). When a VSC is found, a high velocity-low amplitude thrust (adjustment) is performed to restore more normal motion. After the exam, a plan for aftercare is decided, which is specific to every horse.

### Is it safe?

Chiropractic care is very safe when performed by properly trained doctors. Dr. LeZotte has received an advanced training (210 hours) certificate by an approved animal chiropractic training program as well as passed rigorous written and practical testing.

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## WHAT ARE SOME SIGNS?

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The following signs may indicate your horse needs chiropractic care:

- Reduced performance
- Girthy behavior
- Difficulty with canter leads
- Bucking
- Abnormal posture
- Hard to get on the bit or round
- Sensitive to touch on back
- Stiffness
- Shortened stride
- Behavior problems
- Muscle wasting



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## What happens after the adjustment?

To get the maximum benefit of chiropractic care it is important to follow the doctor's aftercare instructions. We typically like the horse to be able to move around freely after an adjustment. Pasture turnout is ideal. If turnout is not possible, frequent, short periods of handwalking is acceptable. How soon the horse can return to work depends on the specific problems they have. It is also critical that any saddle fit or trimming/shoeing problems be addressed. How often your horse needs to be seen depends on the severity and chronicity of the problem. In general, the longer standing the issue, the more treatments will be required.

Contact Us:

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## What causes a Vertebral Subluxation Complex?

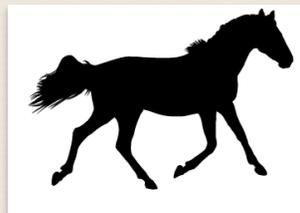
Horses can develop reduced spinal motion for a variety of reasons. They can be a result of a fall or other trauma or simply an occupational hazard of being ridden.

Conformation faults such as long backs or sway backs can predispose a horse to VSCs. Unbalanced shoeing and trimming as well as poor fitting tack with contribute to back problems.

As much as we hate to admit it, as riders we all have some degree of crookedness or strength differences when we ride. This can have a profound effect on a horse's spine.

Chronic lameness will cause the horse to compensate in their spine.

Even the birthing process can cause problems in the mare as well as the foal.



EQUINE and CANINE  
CHIROPRACTIC CARE  
Yes, Animals too...Chiropractic  
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## What is Chiropractic care?

Chiropractic care is a manual therapy that focuses on dysfunction of the spine and its effect on the nervous system.

Chiropractic treatment can be used for a variety of problems as well as a prophylactic treatment to maintain optimum health and fitness. It does not replace traditional veterinary care, but can integrate well into a traditional veterinary treatment plan.

