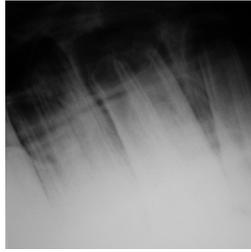


Range Animal Hospital
E6116 US Highway 2
Ironwood, MI 49938
1-906-932-3531
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FAX 1-906-932-6017



Equine Surgical Tooth Extraction

- Dental abscess is a relatively common condition in the horse. Most dental abscesses in horses occur in the upper cheek teeth.
- Endodontic treatment for dental abscess has limited application in the horse. Extraction is generally the preferred procedure.
- Radiographic exam of the dental arcades is indicated in any horse with swelling in the area of the tooth roots. Radiographs are generally diagnostic. Oral exam may further demonstrate a draining fistula and an infected odor.
- The Range Animal Hospital takes equine surgery seriously with the availability of a specially equipped large animal operating room. We have a hydraulic operating table and gas anesthesia for our equine patients. Additionally, multi-parameter monitoring equipment is available for our large animal patients.
- The 'wolf teeth' of a horse can be extracted through the oral cavity. The remainder of a horse's teeth are generally so large and firmly attached into the jawbone so as to prevent their extraction. As a result, the root of the tooth must be approached surgically and the tooth repelled, from the root end, into the mouth.
- The resultant tooth root cavity must be packed with gauze or dental wax to prevent impaction of the root cavity with food material and further infection.
- We prefer to do these procedures on Monday or Tuesday morning, with the horse generally returning home the next day. Some cases require more extensive hospital stays and this is dependant on the extent of the surgery, the extent of the infection, and the presence of concurrent sinus infection.
- We will coordinate aftercare with the referring veterinarian.
- Cost is approximately \$1000 to \$2000. [January 2011] and is variable with the extent of the disease & postoperative aftercare. This includes anesthesia, surgery and postoperative care, but not any needed pre-op blood work. Feel free to send clients with appropriate lab work and radiographs.