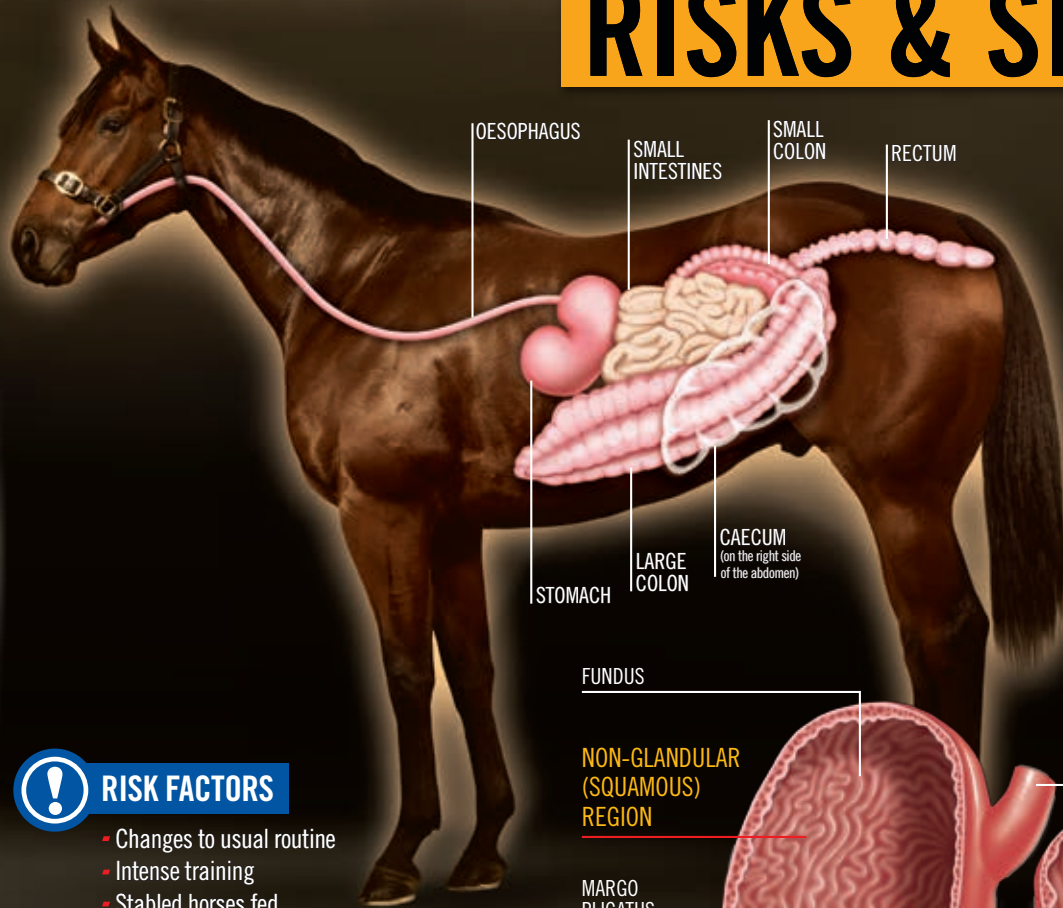


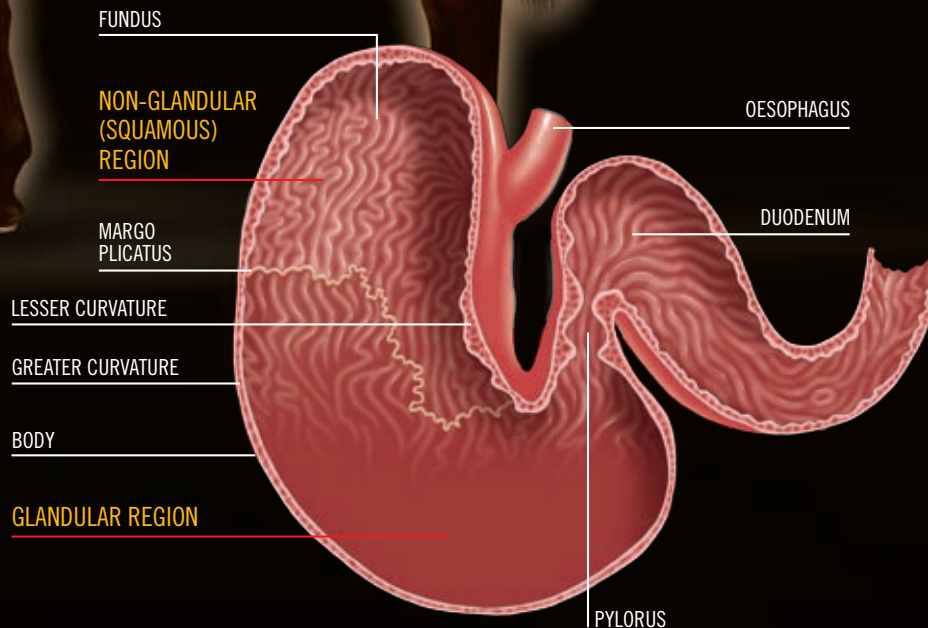
EQUINE GASTRIC ULCERS

RISKS & SIGNS



! RISK FACTORS

- Changes to usual routine
- Intense training
- Stabled horses fed twice a day
- Low forage, concentrate rich diets
- Restricted grazing
- Travelling, especially over 4 hours without food
- Box weaning or early weaning
- Illness or surgery
- Sales preparation of yearlings
- Breeding (especially stallions)

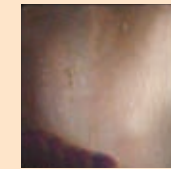


⊗ WARNING SIGNS

- Poor performance
- Sour disposition
- Unsettled in training
- Unwilling to work
- Poor appetite
- Avoiding hard feed and preferring hay
- Dull coat
- Lethargy
- Colic, abdominal discomfort or "girthiness"
- Crib-biting or wind-sucking

IDENTIFYING THE DIFFERENT GRADES

GRADE ① NORMAL MUCOSA



The epithelium is intact and there is no evidence of hyperkeratosis.



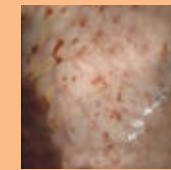
GRADE ① INFLAMMATION



Ulcers have an intact mucosal epithelium, with areas of reddening and hyperkeratosis.



GRADE ② EROSION



Small single or multiple ulcers.



GRADE ③ PROGRESSIVE ULCERATION



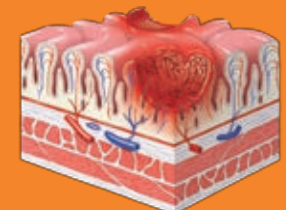
Large single or extensive superficial lesions.



GRADE ④ FULL ULCERATION



Extensive, often coalescing, lesions with areas of apparent deep ulceration.



*References: 1. Andrews F, Bernard W, Byars D et al. Recommendations for the diagnosis and treatment of equine gastric ulcer syndrome (EGUS). The Equine Gastric Ulcer Council. Equine Vet Ed 1999; 11: 252-272. 2. Sykes BW, Hewatson M, Hepburn RJ, Lutherstron N, and Tamzali Y. European College of Equine Internal Medicine Consensus Statement - Equine Gastric Ulcer Syndrome in Adult Horses. J Vet Intern Med 2015; 29:1288-1299.