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COLIC CHECKLIST

I Physical signs

Depression	Uncomfortable	Lying down
Loss of appetite	Rolling	Stretching as if to urinate
Looking at flank	Kicking at belly	Lack of manure in stall

II Rectal temperature

- Normal range is 99.0°F to 101.0°F
- In the summer, can be as high as 101.9°F if in the sun (if 102.0°F call the vet)

III Heart rate/Pulse rate

- Normal range- 28 to 40 beats per minute
- Take pulse rate under jaw at the facial artery
- Take pulse rate with a stethoscope behind or under the elbow on the left side

IV Respiratory rate

- Normal range- 8-20 breaths per minute
- Watch the flank for inhalation and exhalation (this is one breath)

V Mucous membranes (Gum color)

- Normal color is pink
- They should be moist to the touch

VI Capillary refill time (CRT)

- Normal - < 2.5 seconds
- This is subjective test of circulation of the blood at the periphery.
- Press thumb firmly on gums, remove, count how fast the color returns

VII Hydration (Skin Tent)

- Normal- Skin should return flat immediately when released
- Pinch the skin on the neck and release it
- If stays tented, horse may be dehydrated