

IV. Postnatal: *things to do shortly after foaling*

A. **12 hours post foaling . . .**

1. examine and milk the udder, and find one of three conditions:
 - a. PURE WHITE MILK [*see “a” below*]
 - b. NO MILK **or** MILK, BUT SOMETHING OTHER THAN “PURE WHITE MILK” [*see “b” below*]
2. After examining the udder and the milk . . .
 - a. If the milk issued by the new mother is **PURE WHITE MILK** (accept absolutely no substitutes), you will see a happy foal that is either sleeping, snooping around, or occasionally nursing, and passing a yellow soft stool
 - b. **If you cannot milk anything from the udder**, or if you milk out **ANYTHING** other than pure white milk . . .
 - (1) **PANIC!**
 - (2) set yourself an imaginary timetable of 24 hours, *this is how long the foal will survive without milk or supplementation*
 - (3) Start the mare on Domperidone . . .
 - (a) 1 per day for three days
 - (b) 1/2 per day for four more days
 - (4) Give synthetic colostrum, *without colostrum the foal has not received antibodies and will become sick!*
 - (5) If the foal is born energy deficient, start on Foal Lac and feed every 3 hours for first 3 weeks!
 - (6) Leave the foal with the mare – to allow bonding and to stimulate the udder – 3 days. The foal will nurse continuously.
 - (7) Observe the foal for straining/constipation; you will need to administer an enema every other feeding until see yellow stool.
 - (8) Observe the foal for
 - (a) depression
 - (b) lameness
 - (c) swelling in any joint
 - (d) You will see septicemia in 3 to 4 days due to stress and lack of colostrum, energy.
Administer . . .
 - i) Plasma IV
 - ii) Antibiotics
 - (9) **After** feeding the baby 8 times per day – even for only 3 days – plus the cost of Foal Lac, synthetic colostrum, Domperidone, and so on, promise yourself to pay closer attention to the mare’s udder next year!