

## Types of Colic

<b>Type</b>	<b>Cause</b>	<b>Type of Pain</b>	<b>Signs</b>	<b>Treatment</b>
<b>Gas</b>	Rapid fermentation of rich starchy food cause gas to build in the cecum or large intestine	Sharp, intermittent	Horse looks agitated, glances at sides, stomps feet, lies down and gets up often, produces audible gassy rumbles from belly	Pain-relieving medication, such as Banamine, to relax the horse so the gas can be expelled; walking the horse or briefly trailering him may facilitate movement
<b>Impaction</b>	Food, Parasites, or scars block or partial obstruct part of the intestinal tract	Dull, slow to build, may subside periodically	Horse is markedly less attentive to stimuli in his surroundings, looks depressed, and/or spends prolonged periods lying down.	Medication to stimulate gut motility or mineral oil to lubricate the tract and blockage; large volumes of IV fluids to moisten and soften the hardened ingesta and relieve dehydration. Surgery may be required
<b>Displacement</b>	A portion of intestine becomes displaced or twists on itself, cutting off blood supply in some cases	Increasingly intense	Horse is restless, sweats, shows elevated pulse and respiratory rates, may be in shock with pale or purple gums	Surgery to correct the displacement and/or remove portions of the intestine irreparably damaged by lack of blood supply
<b>Sand</b>	Ingested sand accumulates in the lowest portion of the large intestine irritating and eventually stretching it	Little to none until stretching occurs, then increasingly intense	Over many weeks, horse experiences weight loss, develops diarrhea; when intestine stretches, he is restless, sweats, shows elevated pulse and respiratory rates, appears to be in shock with pale or discolored gums	Repeated doses of laxative to stimulate the gut to move the sand out in the manure; tests for sand in manure or x-rays of the gut to tract progress; surgery may be required to remove a persistent large concrete like mass.