

## Horse Breather

Equine Breathing ezine October 2010 issue 52



## **COPD - All Weather Breather case study**

Rescue pony Ben was diagnosed with COPD 2 years ago and anti-inflammatories, antibiotics and steroids were unable to help. His vet advised Equine Breathing and owner George found that upon using an All Weather Breather the symptoms disappeared.

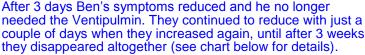
Ben's symptoms were difficulty breathing, wheezing and heaves. George defined scores for 3 levels of severity of the COPD symptoms as follows;

- 3 Worst symptoms; wheezing can be heard 30m away, flanks heaving, pony looking a bit distressed. Generally bad like this about 50% of the time
- 2 Wheezing can be heard from about 10m away, flanks heaving
- 1 Wheezing can barely be heard and only from close up
- 0 No COPD symptoms

At the start (2 August) Ben was on a score of 2 and was on Ventipulmin. Despite his difficulty breathing he was unconcerned about wearing the All Weather Breather.

put the All Weather Breather on first thing and removed it after 10 hours, on his second visit each day. This meant that Ben had the AW on during the day when his symptoms were worst.

George tends his little herd of rescue ponies twice a day so he



After one month of Equine Breathing George concluded that Ben was "90%" or "significantly better" for using the All Weather Breather. "It's been a success, I am pleased. We've made some progress and I am confident and hopeful that he will recover completely, with no more wheezing under any circumstances. He's livelier than he was before, too."

It's important to understand that although the symptoms had gone, Ben was still over breathing so it's essential that he continues with Equine Breathing until he regains normal breathing, which could take some time.

However, for 2 weeks in September due to ill health George was unable to put on the All Weather and yet Ben still remained free of symptoms. But unless Ben is able to continue with Equine Breathing I would expect that the symptoms would return sooner or later. For this reason George intends to resume Equine Breathing as soon as possible to ensure that Ben can continue to recover and remain free from COPD completely.

This case shows how easy it is to use an All Weather Breather and how despite it's mild nature, it can help with even long term severe symptoms.

The chart below shows how the symptoms diminished during the two months of the study.

Ben's vet said the results were encouraging. He commented that it made financial sense to buy a Breather since the cost was about the same as a month's supply of Ventipulmin; and prevention of the COPD was better than managing the symptoms with on going drug treatment.

At start; difficulty breathing and nostrils dilated





George with pony Ben





First AW session



## Ben - COPD symptoms on using All Weather Breather

