

Lameness

Lameness is a general term and several main factors need to be taken into account when considering a remedy.

1. Which leg or legs are involved?
2. Has it come on suddenly, or is it a recurrence of an old incident?
3. What degree of pain or discomfort is present?
4. Is there swelling?
5. Has there been a bite or puncture wound to the foot?



Start with a few doses of **Arnica** to deal with any soft tissue damage and then reassess. Examine the feet to ascertain if there is an injury, infection or foreign body. If infected use **Hepar sulph**. If there has been a puncture wound use **Ledum**.

Or is the source further up the leg and related to a sprain, strain or even fracture.

Apis: There is a recent swelling, possibly from an insect sting. Also look for a sting and remove if you can find it.

Belladonna: The area is hot, red and inflamed.

Bryonia: The pain seems to be much worse from moving. The animal wants to stay still.

Calc Phos: For lameness in young animals. Make sure there is enough bone and other natural calcium containing foods in the diet.

Rhus tox: Strains and sprains in the joints and for lameness that is better for movement and worse for rest.

Ruta grav: Lameness that may look much like *Rhus tox* except more from bruising and injuries of the bones, ligaments or tendons.

Symphytum: To help the body's bone healing ability when the vet has treated a bone fracture.

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Repetition of doses: As a general rule you should reduce the doses of a remedy as it starts to act and not continue once the situation has resolved.

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