



## New Foal Checklist

Congratulations! You have just welcomed your mare's new foal into the world. Now, what? All new foals should have a thorough examination performed by a veterinarian, and be tested for failure of passive transfer. Failure of passive transfer occurs when the foal does not obtain adequate IgG from the mare's colostrum, which makes the foal extremely vulnerable to illness. This should be done within 24 hours of birth. In the meantime, walk through this checklist below to ensure everything has gone smoothly. If anything below is abnormal or delayed, be sure to call the veterinarian sooner rather than later.

### The foal's checklist:

- Time of birth: \_\_\_\_\_
- Standing within 1h of birth
- Nursing within 2h of birth
- Dip navel with diluted chlorhexidine, nolvasan, or betadine (3 times in 1<sup>st</sup> 24 hours)
- Meconium (dark, tar-like first stool) passed
  - If not, talk with the veterinarian about performing a Fleet or soapy water enema
- Does the foal continue to nurse frequently? Without spilling copious milk, or having milk come from their nostrils?
- Has normal frequent urination been observed?
- Is the foal bright, alert, and interactive with its surroundings?

### The mare's checklist:

- Placenta passed within 3h of birth:
  - Save the placenta for veterinary examination
- IF NOT passed within 3h of birth:
  - Do NOT pull on the placenta
  - Use twine or string to tie up so it does not drag on the ground
  - Call the veterinarian as soon as possible
- Check the mare is producing milk
- Was the mare leaking milk before delivery?
  - If yes, was the colostrum saved?
- Monitor the mare's udder frequently, if it becomes full and firm again this indicates the foal is not adequately nursing