VMAt Can SAA Tell Us About Colic?

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Most cases are straightforward, however those that are not pose a constellation of challenges when making decisions for management. In many research studies and real-world situations, SAA testing has demonstrated value for multiple key aspects of colic management.

SAA can help make critical decisions



SAA is usually *normal* with uncomplicated colic



SAA elevation may indicate referral is needed



SAA is often higher in horses that **require** surgery

or advanced care

In conjunction with other clinical factors,

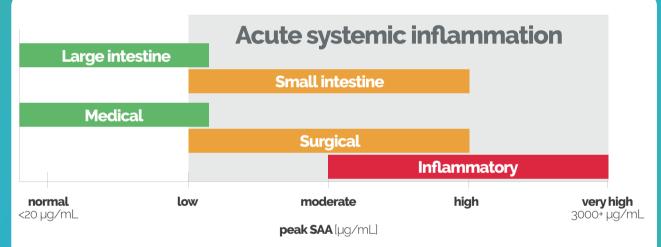








SAA can help determine etiology



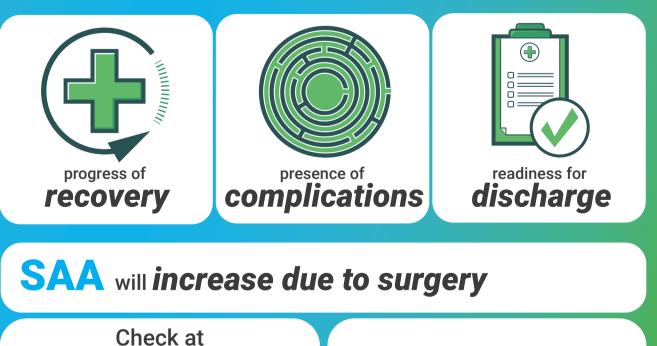
SAA only increases with acute, systemic inflammation

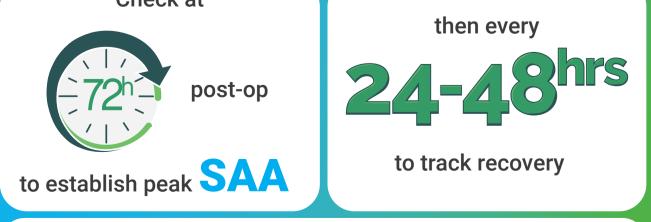
SAA is usually more elevated with small intestinal than large intestinal issues



Very high **SAA** is common with **inflammatory** diseases such as **Colitis or enteritis**

SAA can help with post-op monitoring





Failure to decrease can mean surgical infection, thrombophlebitis, pneumonia, or other complications

Re-test prior to discharge SAA should be **approaching normal**