**Post-Surgical Monitoring**

* A small amount of blood is acceptable within the first 12 hours of surgery. An occasional drip is perfectly fine as capillaries and small arteries continue to open and close due to movement while the tissue is healing. A stream of blood or a spurt is not normal and necessitates a call to your vet.
* Any discharge that is thick and yellow or greenish is definitely abnormal and signals infection. The same thing goes for anything that is foul smelling. If you see or smell something off, call your vet.
* Other things to monitor closely include your horse’s appetite and personality. After sedation has worn off a few hours post-surgery, he can eat hay or graze. Within 12 to 24 hours, his appetite should return to normal. If it doesn’t, or if it waxes and wanes over the next week, call your vet. Additionally, if you notice your horse acting lethargic or febrile, these are cases to have your vet back out, too.