

It's an

# EMERGENCY!

*Five problems you should always call the vet for.*

By  
**MaryAnna  
Clemons**

**M**OST HORSE OWNERS DON'T CALL A VETERINARIAN FOR EVERY LITTLE SCRAPE. MOST horse owners can handle cuts, bruises and bumps with supplies they have on hand.

It's when problems become more severe that horse owners second-guess themselves – Is this cut too deep for me to handle? Is this really a problem? Am I over-reacting? When should I call the vet?

We asked Julie Dechant, D.V.M., an assistant professor in the clinical equine surgical emergency and critical care portion of the University of California-Davis to give us five examples of injuries that need immediate veterinary care. Don't try to handle these on your own. Get help right away.