

## Giving Oral Medications

1. Slowly approach the side of your horses' face with your oral syringe filled with medication. You can rub around their mouth to get them used to the feeling.
2. Place the syringe in the corner of the horses' mouth and insert as far as you can, aiming towards the back of the throat.
3. Start inserting the medication into the horses' mouth, continuing to aim towards the back. The horse might start chewing or move their tongue around, but do your best to keep the syringe in place.
4. You can administer the medications fairly quickly.
5. After you have emptied the syringe, take the syringe out of the horses' mouth and (if medication is liquid) hold the horses chin up to help to keep the horse from spitting it out.

**\*\*When giving medications you can add a variety of flavors to make it an enjoyable experience. Molasses, Karo Syrup, pancake syrup or sugar free pancake syrup for IR/metabolic horses. Some pills may be dissolved in water (Bute, SMZ) or crushed and put in the grain.**

### Other tips:

Praise and use a lot of positive reinforcement for good behavior. Don't make a big deal out of bad behavior, quickly correct and then move on. If the horse is very resistant, or afraid of one step, go back to the previous step. Don't put yourself in danger, seek qualified help if necessary.

