

Wound Management Case Study - Horse H2#

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| Breed: Cross Breed | Wound age: 2 Weeks |
| Age: 10 | Wound location: Leg |
| Sex: Male | Exudate level: Moist |

Presentation:

The horse presented following treatment for a wound caused by barbed wire on the left hindlimb. The resulting flap of skin was thought to be viable and was cleansed and sutured in place soon after injury. The flap failed to take, leaving an open wound that was dressed appropriately but which subsequently overgranulated. (Fig 1)

Management:

The horse was booked in for surgical debridement of overgranulation tissue at the earliest opportunity. Dressings of Activon Tulle medical grade Manuka Honey (Unique Manuka Factor +12) were applied to control contamination and infection. An absorbent secondary dressing was also applied and the dressing bandaged in place and changed after 3 days. (Fig 2)

Surgical removal was performed and once bleeding had been controlled, the wound was again dressed with Activon Tulle. On review at 5 days, and after lavage, the wound was granulating well and had reduced in size.

Activon Tulle was continued as the primary dressing for a further 3 weeks. Some excessive granulation tissue was evident after this time and was again removed surgically. The granulation tissue being absent of nerve endings, and the horse being cooperative, meant that excision could be performed standing and without sedation.

Activon Tulle was reapplied and the wound continued to contract and progress well. (Fig 3)

Outcome:

The wound progressed well following surgical debridement of the excessive granulation tissue. Ongoing management using Activon Tulle was felt to minimise infection risk while ensuring a moist and healthy wound environment for healing. The only white hair growth giving evidence of the injury was due to inadequate underpadding during bandaging at home. (Fig 4) The horse returned to work less than 3 months after initial presentation.

Dressing summary:

The Activon Medical Grade Manuka Honey (Unique Manuka Factor+12) was used to help manage the local contamination within the wound while having an anti-inflammatory effect. The Activon Tulle dressing was chosen as it is easily applied while standing and the 5-7 day wear time significantly reduced dressing changes, enabling healing tissue to remain undisturbed.

Acknowledgement:

www.vetwoundlibrary.com - Horse #18



Fig 1



Fig 2



Fig 3



Fig 4

