

## VETERINARY MEDICINE AND SURGERY

The interest for the platelet gel in veterinary medicine is rapidly increasing.

Before platelet gel came into existence horses, canines, and bovines suffering from serious orthopedic injuries or from severe skin lesions were more likely to be euthanized than cured. Now that evidences from humans have established reduced recovery and rehabilitation times owing to the healing capacity of platelet gel, these domestic animals are given more chances than before. Using platelet gel in athlete and non-athlete animals consistently reduces the costs associated with treatments and loss of use.

After the pivotal experimental paper published by Carter CA et al (Exp Molec Pathol 2003;74: 244-255) and the investigation on equine tendon and ligament injuries performed at The Ohio State University College of Veterinary Medicine, many equine and veterinary centres use growth-factor therapy with platelet-gel for tendon, ligament, bone, and skin injury.

At New England Equine Medical and Surgical Center, PRP has been injected in over 200 horses with tendon and ligament injuries. Treatment has resulted in rapid healing of previously static lesions and return to soundness and function.

At the Veterinary University of Barcelona and at the Cornell University at Ithaca horse tendinopathy were effectively cured with autologous platelet (Vet Rec 2008;162:208-211; Vet Clin North Am Equine Pract 2008;24:191-201).

Here we reproduce a series of pictures (from <http://www.bytheblood.net/>) paradigmatic for healing outcomes in injured horses treated with autologous platelet gel.

### Case 1: leg injury and 8 days after treatment



### Case 2 Leg wound; surgery room, 8, and 45 day after treatment



**Case 3** Necrotic purulent head lesion with bone fractures; 5 and 90 days after treatment



**Case 4** Head lesion with bone fractures: day of treatment, 7, and 45 days after treatment

