CASE STUDY

Courtesy of Hugh Worsham, DVM
Foxdale Equine Veterinary Services; Cumming, GA

Trigger, an 8 year old paint gelding presented with a severe "degloving" laceration to his right hind limb. It exposed 75% of his dorsal cannon bone and severed his extensor tendons just below the hock.

It is unknown how long the wound went untreated before Trigger was transported to “Save the Horses”, a rescue relief organization in Georgia. When Dr. Hugh Worsham of Foxdale Equine Veterinary Services learned of the catastrophic nature of Trigger’s wound he had Trigger transported to his clinic for immediate care. A treatment regime was devised consisting of weekly debridement, lavage, VersaTron shockwave therapy, Vetrix extracellular matrix implants and casting.

Shock Wave therapy was administered to the healing epidermal skin margins between castings (at 7-10 day intervals) VersaTron; 5mm trode; 1200 pulses.

In less than two months the entire exposed cannon bone was covered with granulation tissue and wound contraction was underway. Fortunately, no bone death (sequestrum) occurred, most likely due to the rapid response to all the treatment modalities.

Now in his third month, Trigger’s wound is healing at such a rate that skin grafts will not be necessary.

“This has been a unique learning experience for me. Never before in 33 years of practice have I had the opportunity to employ so many new treatment modalities at one time in such a catastrophic case with such good results in so short a timeframe. Working with Trigger has in some ways changed my perception of what is possible when all the right resources are available. Not to mention…..the perfect patient”

– Dr. Worsham