

VetCell

Equine Stem Cell Therapy

www.vetcell.com

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Latest published research shows VetCell's StemRegen stem cell therapy is more effective than other treatments

There are many so-called 'stem cell therapies' currently being used to 'help' regenerate musculoskeletal disorders such as tendon and ligament injuries in horses or osteoarthritis in dogs. These treatments use a variety of sources for the 'stem cells' but none so far have showed efficacy with enough patients to provide statistical significance. However, there is one company that has gone out of its way to ensure that its **methods are well-researched** and that the techniques used are based on **sound scientific knowledge**. VetCell are leading the field in equine stem cell therapy and their treatment is **the only stem cell therapy that is supported by the latest research** from the Royal Veterinary College.

Professor Roger Smith and Emma Godwin et al.'s recently published paper in the Equine Veterinary Journal studied the outcome of VetCell's stem cell treatment on 113 National Hunt racehorses with lesions to the superficial digital flexor tendon, with three year follow up. It showed that the **re-injury rate of these VetCell-treated horses is approximately half that of any other conventional treatment**. This is because stem cells encourage the **formation of normal elastic tendon tissue** rather than the more bulky and less stretchy scar tissue. If the tendon can stretch evenly throughout its length it is less likely to re-injure when the horse returns to full work. This recent research relates only to **VetCell's unique and patented stem cell therapy process** which suspends the stem cells in bone marrow supernatant before implantation into the site of injury. Here is a link to the paper...

<http://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/10.1111/j.2042-3306.2011.00363.x/abstract>

So it seems that stem cell therapy is definitely the way forward for treating tendon injuries but this comes with a word of warning... Not all stem cell treatments are equal and **the way that the stem cells are prepared is vitally important**. Many adipose

stem cell therapies often don't involve the culture of stem cells so there can be no assurance that it is indeed stem cells that are being implanted. In addition, collection of adipose tissue for this process can often lead to unsightly scarring on the horse. VetCell use only mesenchymal stem cells taken from the injured horse's own bone marrow and cultured in the lab, as these appear to be **effective at encouraging the formation of better quality tissue** in the site of injury. VetCell and their partner lab Biobest are the only licensed Equine Stem Cell Centre culturing stem cells in the UK.

VetCell have now treated over 1800 horses using this technique from racehorses and eventers to dressage horses, hunters, all-rounders and family ponies. Less than one third of the treated horses are racehorses but they have amassed more than **220 wins post treatment and more than 600 top three placings**. At least 56 of these horses have run more than ten times, of which 12 have run more than 25 times – some even having run more than 40 times since their stem cell treatment. And that's just those that can be traced by a distinctive name, there will be more that can't be traced as some do not have their registered name on their patient records. This **return to form and career elongation** is a real testament to the **strength of the repair** and the importance of the controlled exercise rehabilitation programme which allows the tendon to repair in the correct way, thus **dramatically reducing the chances of re-injury**.

On their return to full work, some of VetCell's patients have gone on to **win the Welsh Grand National**, an eventing silver medal at the **European Young Rider Championships** and the **Cheltenham Gold Cup Trial**. Quite remarkable achievements considering that a tendon injury used to be the end of the road for many horses.

VetCell's evidence-based, patented and VMD-authorized stem cell procedure is the only one in the marketplace to offer reassurance to vets, trainers and owners. In fact, VetCell are so confident that their stem cell therapy will work that they offer a **money back guarantee** scheme to pass on that confidence to owners. Standards are high on the agenda too. VetCell ensure every batch of stem cells sent from the lab is **checked for sterility, number of cells, cell viability and quality** so that customers know that they are getting exactly what they are paying for and nothing unwanted! If you want your horse to have the **best chance of making a full recovery, why risk using anything else?**

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