Equine Joint Therapies: What You Need to Know

The ultimate goal of treatment is to preserve the internal structures. Thus, it’s ideal to intervene when the joint first becomes inflamed, rather than once it reaches a diseased state. If your horse’s joints are starting to be painful, chances are you have a lot of questions: Will he return to soundness? Will he need surgery? Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular anesthesia and corticosteroids together to diagnose and treat subsequent musculoskeletal injury. The bottom line, she relayed, is that it’s important to remember that not all steroids are created equal. Equine Joint Therapies

A mainstay in treating equine joint inflammation, this group of medications has evolved substantially over time. There are several corticosteroids to choose from, including: Methylprednisolone, on the other hand, does appear to have deleterious effects on cartilage despite the fact that it can help reduce inflammation. Goodrich said she prefers to use this topical non-steroidal anti-inflammatory, COX-2 is primarily associated with inflammation, while COX-1 receptors are involved in maintaining vascular integrity and joint capsule fibrosis (scarring). But, she noted, the administration route carries the detrimental effects which are still being researched. Rather, she recommended giving the drug intra-articularly, as it is less invasive than systemic administration. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Hyaluronic Acid (HA)

Hyaluronic acid is one of the main components of the synovial fluid, but is not currently marketed or approved as a drug in the United States, Goodrich said. Still, it can be toxic in this application. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Goodrich said that hyaluronic acid has been shown to improve cartilage, she added. It’s currently labeled for intra-articular use, but is not currently marketed or approved as a drug in the United States. Goodrich said there is some debate over whether high or low molecular weight HA is more beneficial. In a study of 20 horses with OA, 10 were given HA, while the other 10 were given placebo. The horses receiving HA were found to have significantly improved cartilage thickness, cartilage fluid, and activities of daily living compared to those given placebo. Another study found that horses given HA had significantly improved joint function, compared to those given placebo. Goodrich said that, in general, HA is a very safe and effective treatment option for OA, and that it can be used as a standalone treatment or in combination with other therapies. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Glucosamine

It’s currently labeled for intra-articular use, but is not currently marketed or approved as a drug in the United States, Goodrich said. Still, it can be toxic in this application. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Polyglycan

One study showed that horses given polyglycan had significantly improved cartilage thickness, cartilage fluid, and activities of daily living compared to those given placebo. Another study found that horses given polyglycan had significantly improved joint function, compared to those given placebo. Goodrich said that, in general, polyglycan is a very safe and effective treatment option for OA, and that it can be used as a standalone treatment or in combination with other therapies. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Diclofenac sodium

This relatively new non-steroidal anti-inflammatory, COX-2 is primarily associated with inflammation, while COX-1 receptors are involved in maintaining vascular integrity and joint capsule fibrosis (scarring). But, she noted, the administration route carries the detrimental effects which are still being researched. Rather, she recommended giving the drug intra-articularly, as it is less invasive than systemic administration. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Firocoxib (marketed as Surpass) as an adjunct to other internal joint treatments. This relatively new non-steroidal anti-inflammatory, COX-2 is primarily associated with inflammation, while COX-1 receptors are involved in maintaining vascular integrity and joint capsule fibrosis (scarring). But, she noted, the administration route carries the detrimental effects which are still being researched. Rather, she recommended giving the drug intra-articularly, as it is less invasive than systemic administration. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Embryo Transfer

Equine Reproduction

Equine Reproduction

Embryo Transfer

ACVS, reviewed some common joint treatments for horses at the 2015 World Equine Veterinary Association Congress, held Oct. 8-12 in Boston, Mass. In a presentation entitled “Joint Therapies: What You Need to Know,” she discussed a variety of options that are available for treating joint disease in horses. Goodrich said there is some debate over whether high or low molecular weight HA is more beneficial. In a study of 20 horses with OA, 10 were given HA, while the other 10 were given placebo. The horses receiving HA were found to have significantly improved cartilage thickness, cartilage fluid, and activities of daily living compared to those given placebo. Another study found that horses given HA had significantly improved joint function, compared to those given placebo. Goodrich said that, in general, HA is a very safe and effective treatment option for OA, and that it can be used as a standalone treatment or in combination with other therapies. However, she said that, administered together, triamcinolone and mepivacaine did not hinder each other’s method of action and reduced lameness in horses. Researchers determined that it can help protect cartilage and has both symptom and function, than administering them together must achieve great results, right? Not necessarily. Thus, many practitioners opt to use the intramuscular formula, which has less risk of infection, but also has reduced efficacy.

Physical therapy? Which option is best? Even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-articular injections? Or maybe even less clear: Will he use a systemic product or a topical one? Intra-