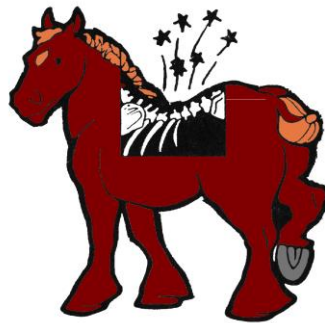


Integration of Chiropractic in the Equine Practice **The Back Patient**



Back Pain in Horses

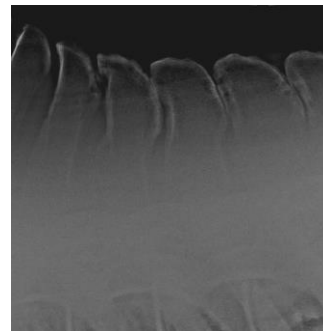


Symptoms /History

- Cold backed, slow to warm up during exercise
- Dislikes Palpation
- Dips when first mounted
- Performance problems
- Skin lesions/ hair rubs

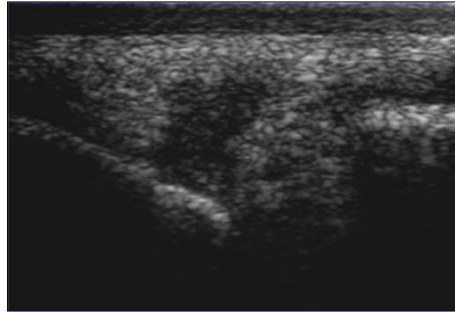
Examination

- X-Ray



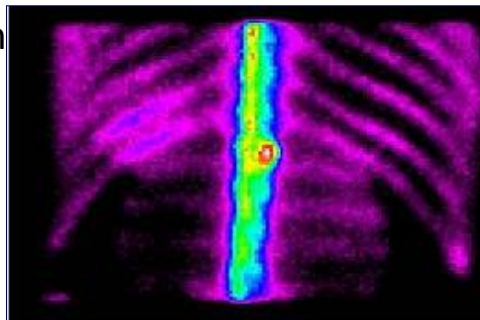
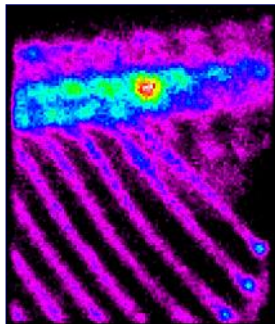
Examination

■ Ultrasound



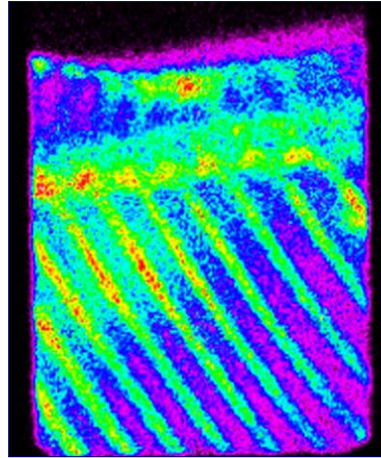
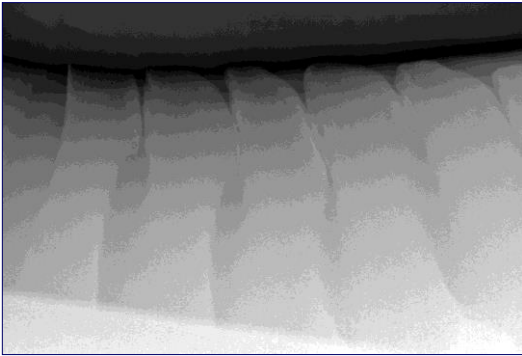
Findings

Vertebral fractures
(Stress fractures in
race horses)



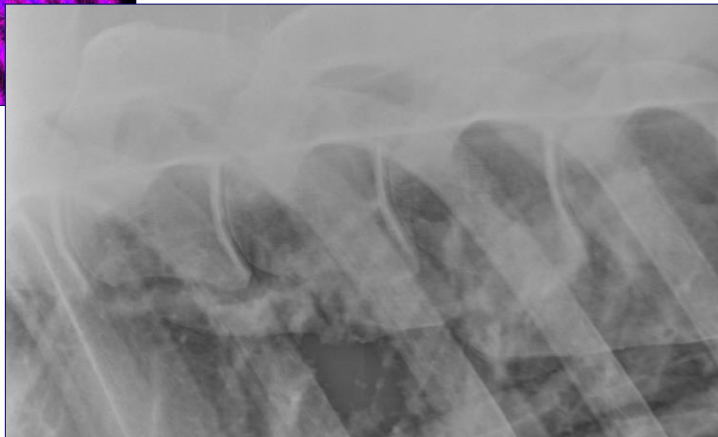
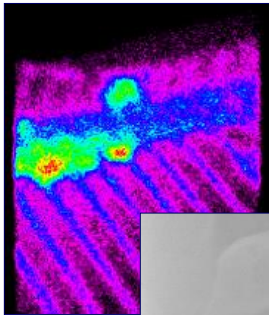
Findings

Kissing spines



Findings

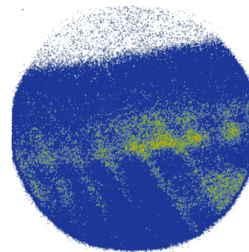
Spondylosis



Findings

Facet Syndrome

- Irritation / inflammation of joint capsules
- Osteoarthritis of facet joints
- Caused by subluxations, and mechanical stress on joints such as over extension
- Diagnosis:
 - X-ray
 - Szintigraphy
 - Ultrasound



Back Problems in Humans

- 60 – 80 % of all people suffer from back pain
- Most patients with back pain have no structural pathologies that can be unmistakably named as the cause of their Symptoms.
- There is no close correlation between radiological findings and the clinical picture of the symptoms.

Kissing Spine Syndrom KSS

Research: Ranner und Gerhards 1995 – 2000

169 warmblood horses in southern Germany

55,5 % KSS diagnosed by x-ray

27 % clinically symptomatic with back problems

➡ Enormous discrepancy between x-ray diagnosis and clinical examination.

Traditional Veterinary Medicine

- Diagnostic and Treatment of structural Changes

Chiropractic

- Diagnostic and Treatment of functional Changes

Chiropractic Care

- Adjust all subluxations
- Maintain existing function
- Increase range of motion in the rest of the spine

- Hypermobility is often compensation for decreased range of motion in other parts of the spine.

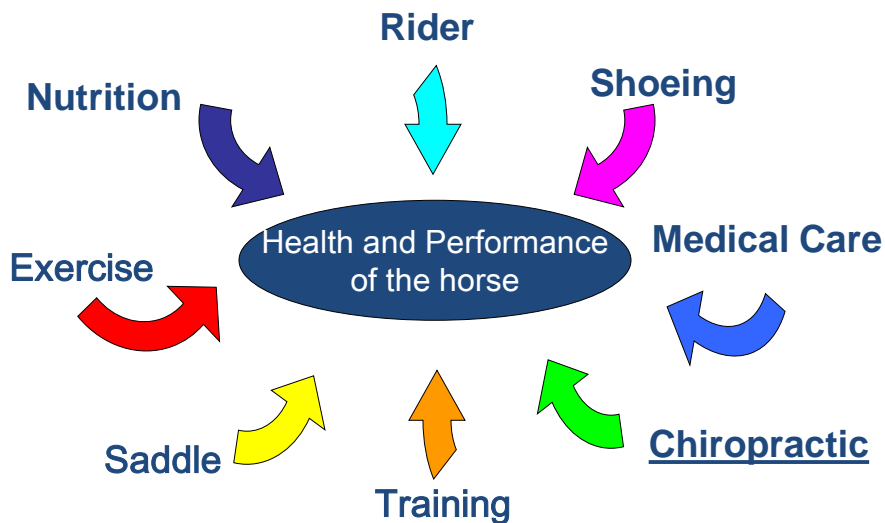
Chiropractic Treatment in the Rehabilitation of back Problems

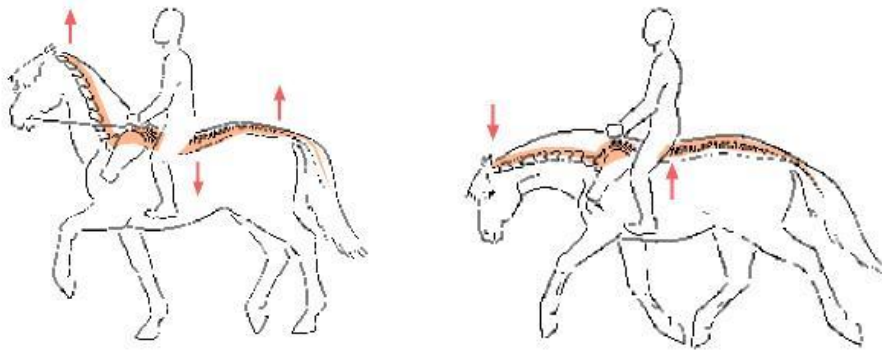
- Treatment of Spinal Dysfunctions (VSCs)
- Restoring Movement of Vertebral Motion Units
- Supporting treatment in the rehabilitation of degenerative joint disease
- Supporting treatment in the rehabilitation of soft tissue injuries
- Geriatric Patients

How Many Treatments Are Needed?

(Clinical Goals)

- Relief of pain and symptoms.
- Return to full function.
- Promote full healing.
- Reduce the likelihood, severity, and frequency of recurrences.
- Prevent the development of degeneration.
- Increase performance levels.





Conclusion



- Especially when dealing with the horse, chiropractic offers the veterinarian ***additional diagnostic and therapeutic means*** of identifying and treating primary causes of musculoskeletal dysfunction and poor performance.

Conclusion

- Chiropractic Requires:
- A thorough knowledge of structural anatomy, neurophysiology and biomechanics. As well, knowledge of pathology of the spine and the extremities is needed to understand the principles behind chiropractic and to integrate it well within veterinary medicine.

