

In My Opinion . . .

My name is Dr. Courtney Diehl and I am an equine veterinarian in Colorado.

In my opinion, the biggest mistake that doctors can make is thinking that science has all of the answers. We do not learn to think outside of the box in medical school, and unfortunately a large part of the information that students are being given is funded and sponsored by the big drug and pet food companies. Our nutrition course actually consisted of a Hill's representative teaching us about the different prescription diets manufactured by the company!

I think as professionals, we must be very careful to use caution when we prescribe drugs or recommend diet changes. Do we REALLY know what we are prescribing or are we regurgitating the interests of others who make large profits off what we are taught to do for our patients?

In my search for other ways to manage cases, I contacted Rowan Emrys. I was working on two horses that I had diagnosed with Cushings disease, a metabolic disorder of the pituitary and adrenal glands, and wondered what else I could do for them besides drug therapy. Rowan recommended some diet changes and was able to give the reasoning for why she would have made these changes. She sent me an article she had written as a follow-up; I appreciated her logic and her knowledge and I reprinted it for the clients. One horse had an episode of laminitis during his drug therapy and it turned out that the owner had not been dosing him properly with the medication and was over-supplementing him, thinking that while some was good, more must be better!

Here is an email I sent to Rowan at the time:

Hi Rowan-

Both horses are doing extremely well. Because they were both so ill, I elected to start them on the Pergolide simultaneously with the feed changes, and back them off of the meds slowly as their systems adjusted to this new feed regimen.

*I am pleased to see improvement in energy levels, attitude, decrease in foot abscesses and colic episodes, and there are two very happy owners who now love **DYNAMITE** products!!!!*

So let's keep this happening! I couldn't be more pleased.

Because of the success with the Cushing's horses, I became a Distributor and began to experiment with other products. I volunteer time at a Shelter and shared some of my experiences there with Rowan in this email:

Thanks for all your terrific advice, Rowan.

*I have been having a great time experimenting!!!!!! Turns out I am generating a lot of interest in these **DYNAMITE** items by it and now I need to order some more stuff!*

*The Humane Society is very excited about the **DYNAMITE** products after witnessing what the **Trace Minerals Concentrate** did on bleeding wounds - I use them at the shelter when I neuter kittens, when we notch ears on feral cats, and general dogfight bites and scratches. The shelter would like a bottle to keep on hand!*

*Also used the **Wound Balm** for earmites, jugular thrombosis, old healing abscess in knee and other lumps and bumps. We currently have some neonates (kittens) on the bottle and I would like to try some of the **DynaPro** and **DynaSpark** with them—they had a really rough start and we lost two.*

*I am using the pure **Tea Tree Oil** on a scalp psoriasis. So far so good - less itching and*

shortened healing time. Have also tried it on some scrapes and cuts, nasty bug bites and saddle sores.

. . . I am SO impressed ...I want to help share what I am seeing!

I notice that my patients enjoy the smell of the **Wound Balm**, and it does seem to be soothing on scrapes, nicks and the like. This product has been an interesting experiment for me. Here's another email to Rowan:

Hi Rowan,

*I cannot keep the **Wound Balm** in stock!!!*

*I would like to order 2 cases of it- it goes beautifully with my chiropractic care. I used it on a show QH who managed to get a large stab in his hamstring muscle and the scar it left was unbelievable and the horse could not flex or extend the leg properly. With massage therapy and **Wound Balm** on the ugly puffy protruding scar, in 2 weeks it is virtually gone. The owner can't believe it.*

What IS this stuff exactly and why does it work?? People keep asking me for an explanation and all I can tell them is that it increased blood flow to the area.

I had an excellent response with the **Wound Balm** with another mare who developed a nasty infection/inflammation in her pastern region. It persisted and worsened, despite hospitalization and surgery, and euthanasia was finally recommended. The owner refused to put her horse down, and called me to see if I could think of anything else to try on the mare. I suggested a combination of **Wound Balm** and **Release**, and didn't really know how it would work on this awful mess. She was diligent with alternating both and played with different protocols. In the end, she thought that both had helped the mare tremendously with perhaps the **Release** a bit more. The mare improves daily, and has gone from a slow hobble to galloping around the field. The owner felt that the combination of the products helped her horse far more than the wide range of antibiotics, anti-inflammatories, and surgeries had done. Here is the last email I sent on that subject to Rowan:

*Hi Rowan, Ginger, the horse that had the inflammation in the pastern region, is responding beautifully to the **Wound Balm** and the **Release**. The owner can't believe it and neither can the doc who I referred the case to! She just went in for her recheck and progress is impressive. No bute! No DMSO! No steroid injections, which, unfortunately, is what [the other clinic] was doing to her. So that is a success story!*

Thanks again!

However, I did have one client use the **Balm** inappropriately and blistered her mare; we *do* have to follow directions!

I am truly enjoying the **DYNAMITE** products and learning what they can do. And I appreciate Rowan's continued input as to how to use them appropriately and with confidence. Of course, above all else, logic, common sense and careful education will help us to help others, whether animal or human.

Courtney Diehl, D.V.M.

Dr. Diehl is also a certified acupuncturist and equine chiropractor; the Parker School of Chiropractic in Texas flies her in monthly so she can perform her duties as Adjunct Professor of Equine Chiropractic. Dr. Diehl became a Dynamite Distributor under Gold Director Rowan Emrys in March, 2004.