

A lateral radiograph (X-ray) of a horse's hoof, showing the internal bone structure. The image is in grayscale. The hoof wall is visible at the bottom, with several vertical lines representing the laminae. The hoof capsule is visible above the wall. The text "SUBCLINICAL LAMINITIS IN THE SHOW HORSE" is overlaid in red, bold, sans-serif font in the center of the image. At the bottom right, there is a small, faint, mirrored text "CHRISTIAN ICONS & ART" which is likely a watermark or artifact from the scanning process.

**SUBCLINICAL LAMINITIS IN
THE SHOW HORSE**

WHAT IS LAMINITIS

- Simply stated, “laminitis” is inflammation of the laminae.
- The sequel to this event can be laminar swelling, laminar detachment, and laminar death.



CAUSES OF LAMINITIS

- Metabolic – Cushing's, Equine Metabolic Syndrome, Grain overload, Stress (Hauling, Post Surgery, Disease – Potomac Horse Fever)
- Trauma – Direct trauma (Hoof wall avulsions, Repetitive Concussion ["Road Founder"], Tearing of Dorsal Lamina from severe toe elongation and imbalance)

WHAT IS SUBCLINICAL LAMINITIS

- “SUBCLINICAL” REFERS TO A CONDITION THAT IS NOT READILY APPARENT TO THE OBSERVER. THE HORSE APPEARS ESSENTIALLY NORMAL, IS NOT OVERTLY LAME, AND MAY ONLY EXHIBIT A LOWERED PERFORMANCE FROM HIS USUAL LEVEL.

LITTLE KNOWN LAMINITIC EVENTS

- Pedal Osteitis
- Sole abscesses (sequestrum)
- “Gravel”, “Seedy toe”
- Severe flares – toe flares and quarter flares
- “Navicular disease”
- Poor performance

CLINICAL LAMINITIS



?LAMINITIC?



WHAT CAN BE DONE? (DIAGNOSTICALLY)

- Do not assume that lowered performance is due to 'bad days', anemia, bad training, or other cause.
- Do not over-diagnose 'navicular disease'
- Watch for subtle signs – uneven 'nod', mildly lowered performance, physical signs of insulin resistance
- RADIOGRAPH REGULARLY – THESE ARE VALUABLE HORSES

RADIOGRAPHIC LAMINITIS SIGNS

- Decreased sole depth
- Rotation of digit
- Drop of P3 in hoof capsule
- Bone erosion at tip of P3
- Hoof distortion
- Increased distance between dorsal hoof wall and P3



SIGNS OF SUBCLINICAL LAMINITIS

- Drop of P3 in hoof capsule
- Bone erosion at tip of P3
- Hoof distortion
- Increased distance between dorsal hoof wall and P3





FUN AFTERNOON



FUN EVENING

