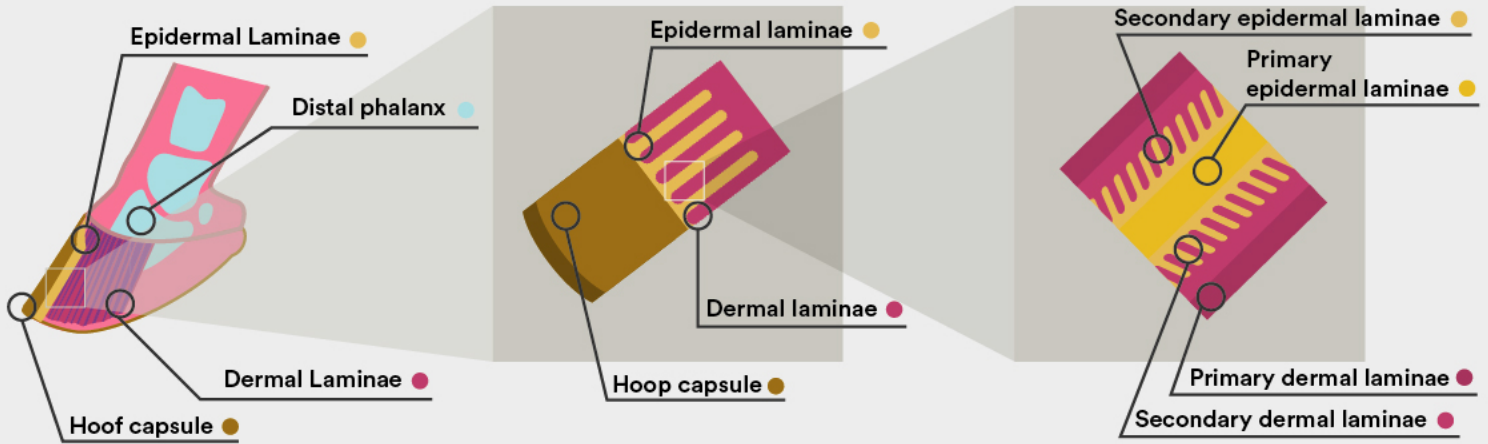


# LAMINITIS (FOUNDER)

## THE FOOT OF THE HORSE

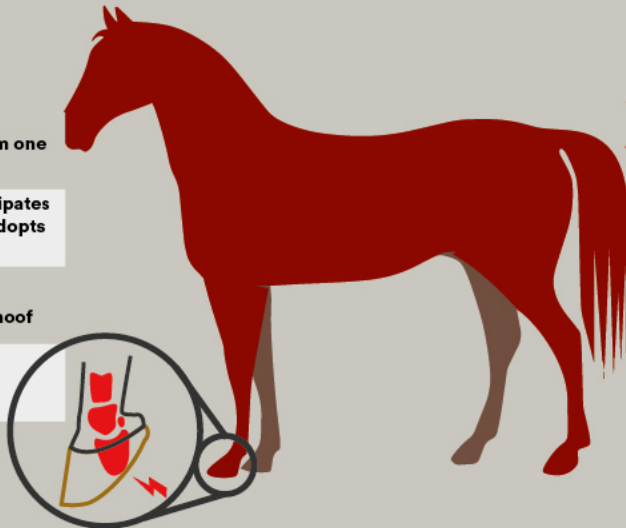


The integrity of the foot is assured by the junction between the hoof capsule and the keratogenic membrane via laminae that are hooked together thanks to a number of adhesive mechanisms.

## CAUSES AND SYMPTOMS OF LAMINITIS

### SYMPTOMS

- 1 Transfers his weight from one hoof to another
- 2 Shortened strides, anticipates putting his foot down, adopts a "laminitic stance"
- 3 Walking is very difficult, impossible to pick up a hoof
- 4 Refuses to move, remains lying down



### CAUSES

- Overexertion, too much weight
- Metabolic disease (obesity, equine metabolic syndrome, Cushing's disease)
- Endotoxemia : An overload of soluble sugars (starch, fructans) or infection (placental retention)

### MECHANISM

- Disturbances to the foot's vascularization
- Inflammation and pro-oxidation
- The cells of the laminae no longer function correctly

### CONCLUSION

→ The adhesive mechanisms between the laminae disappear, the hoof capsule is no longer attached to the phalanx which can lead to it's rotation.

## RECOMMENDATIONS

### PREVENTING LAMINITIS

- Limit obesity  
Body condition score =3/5
- Soak hay for 2h before feeding it
- Limit starch  
- Non prone horses 100g/100kg bodyweight/meal  
- Prone horses 30g/100kg bodyweight/meal
- To contribute to the functioning of the intestinal microbiota administer pre-pro-postbiotics.
- Limit turnout from spring through to autumn

### MANAGING AN ATTACK OF LAMINITIS

- Fulfil nutritional requirements for maintenance :  
Forage + Fats and oils first and foremost
- Do not feed cereals  
If the horse isn't obese, nor suffering from insulin insensitivity and the laminitis isn't related to sugars feed a maximum of 15g of starch/100kg bodyweight/meal
- Feed hay containing a maximum soluble sugar level of 10 -12%  
Soak hay for 2h before feeding it
- Strengthen supplies of vitamins (vitamin B8 (biotin), vitamin A, vitamin B6, vitamin E) and minerals (copper, zinc and selenium)
- Rebalance the intestinal microbiota by administering pre-pro-postbiotic supplements