



**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**

Media Contact:

Anna Laurent

Manager of Outreach

817-244-6188 ext. 109

[alaurent@nchacutting.com](mailto:alaurent@nchacutting.com)

June 14, 2023

**NCHA FOUNDATION PROVIDES PROJECT UPDATE ON RECENTLY FUNDED EQUINE HIGH-PERFORMANCE SPORTS GROUP FIELD RESEARCH AIMED AT IMPROVING EQUINE HEALTH AND RECOVERY FROM CRITICAL INJURIES IN PERFORMANCE HORSES**

FORT WORTH – The recently announced pilot study on the use of regenerative/orthobiologic treatments for stifle and suspensory injuries in performance horses, funded by the NCHA Foundation in partnership with the Equine Performance High Performance Sports Group (EHPSG), has been initiated. In early May, research analysts, and initial participating veterinarians, met to discuss and receive training on the research study processes which are being used to record and share project data.

The study, which focuses on the use and impact of Regenerative Biologics and their effect on recovery speed time, is expected to shine a light on alternative preventive measures with the capability to have a positive impact on future performance horse injuries. The primary objective of the study is to be able to provide veterinarians, and subsequently owners/decision makers, with the data necessary to assist them in determining the best treatment solutions for equine athletes in a quick and efficient manner.

“Plain and simple, it’s time for our industry to provide unbiased information on a large population of performing equine athletes who have been treated with a regenerative/orthobiologic product,” said Dr. Mark Revenaugh, EHPSG Co-founder and project lead. “The ECR program is enlisting top equine veterinary specialty practices around the world to participate in this groundbreaking program with the common goal of providing the safest and most effective treatment options for our horses. We are really excited about the long-term prospects that this project will likely bring to the Equine industry as well as to the emerging field of regenerative medicine.”

Preliminary data has started coming in from the veterinarians associated with the pilot study in the western performance horse sector, as well as those whose practices primarily focus on warm-blood sporting equines. While it is too early to provide any information regarding trends or indications based on the preliminary data, the propensity of suspensory and stifle injuries across all equine performance athletes demonstrates the need to continue research in this area.

The EHPSG team is confident that this research will produce important information for veterinarians and owners, allowing them to make better-informed decisions and improve equine athlete welfare. The NCHA Foundation looks forward to the continuation of this pilot study and would like to extend our thanks to



participating veterinarians - Dr. Charlie Buchanan – Signature Equine Hospital Stephenville, Texas, Dr. Chris Ray – Equine Sports Medicine & Surgery Weatherford, Texas, Dr. Beau Whitaker – Brazos Valley Equine Hospitals Salado, Texas, and Dr. Ty Tipton – 113 Equine Millsap, Texas.

We look forward to keeping you informed as the study progresses. To learn more about the participating vet practices or to be included in the study, please contact the above practices directly. To learn more about how you can help the NCHA Foundation support more projects of this nature please visit [www.nchafoundation.org/givenow](http://www.nchafoundation.org/givenow).

For more about the Equine High-Performance Sports Group and their research, visit <https://bit.ly/EHPSG>

#### **About the NCHA Foundation**

Since 1982, the NCHA Foundation has proudly supported the NCHA through youth scholarships and programming, animal welfare research and projects, historical preservation efforts, and education of the sport of cutting.