

Bandage or pressure sores

How to prevent and treat



The way forward

Dr. Jacintha M. Wilmink

Wageningen, The Netherlands



Bandages have many advantages: in all species

Bandages:

- **Compress dead space**
- **Reduce edema**
- **Protect against external contamination and insults**
- **Absorb exudate**
- **Provide moist environment**
- **Increase the local temperature**
- **Promote healing**
- **Dressing: interfere with healing**

But.....

Bandages also have disadvantages: sores

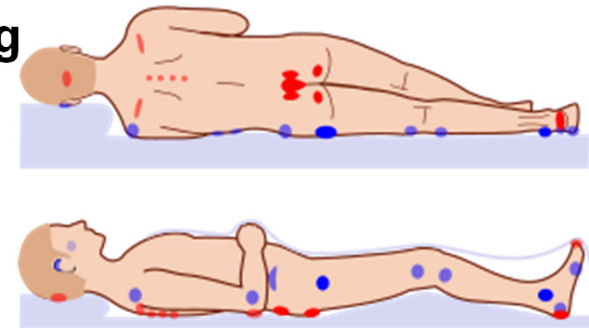
Woundcare

Pressure sores:

Definition: localized damage to the skin and/or underlying tissue that usually occur over a bony prominence as a result of usually long-term pressure.

- completely or partially obstructed blood flow to the soft tissue
- by the weight of the individual
- most common in individuals that are not moving

Old, ill people



Bandage sores:

Definition: idem: pressure caused by bandage

- too tight
- too loose
- wrinkles

Healthy animals

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Bandage or pressure sores: in all species

Irish Wolfhound



Risk:

- Over bony prominences

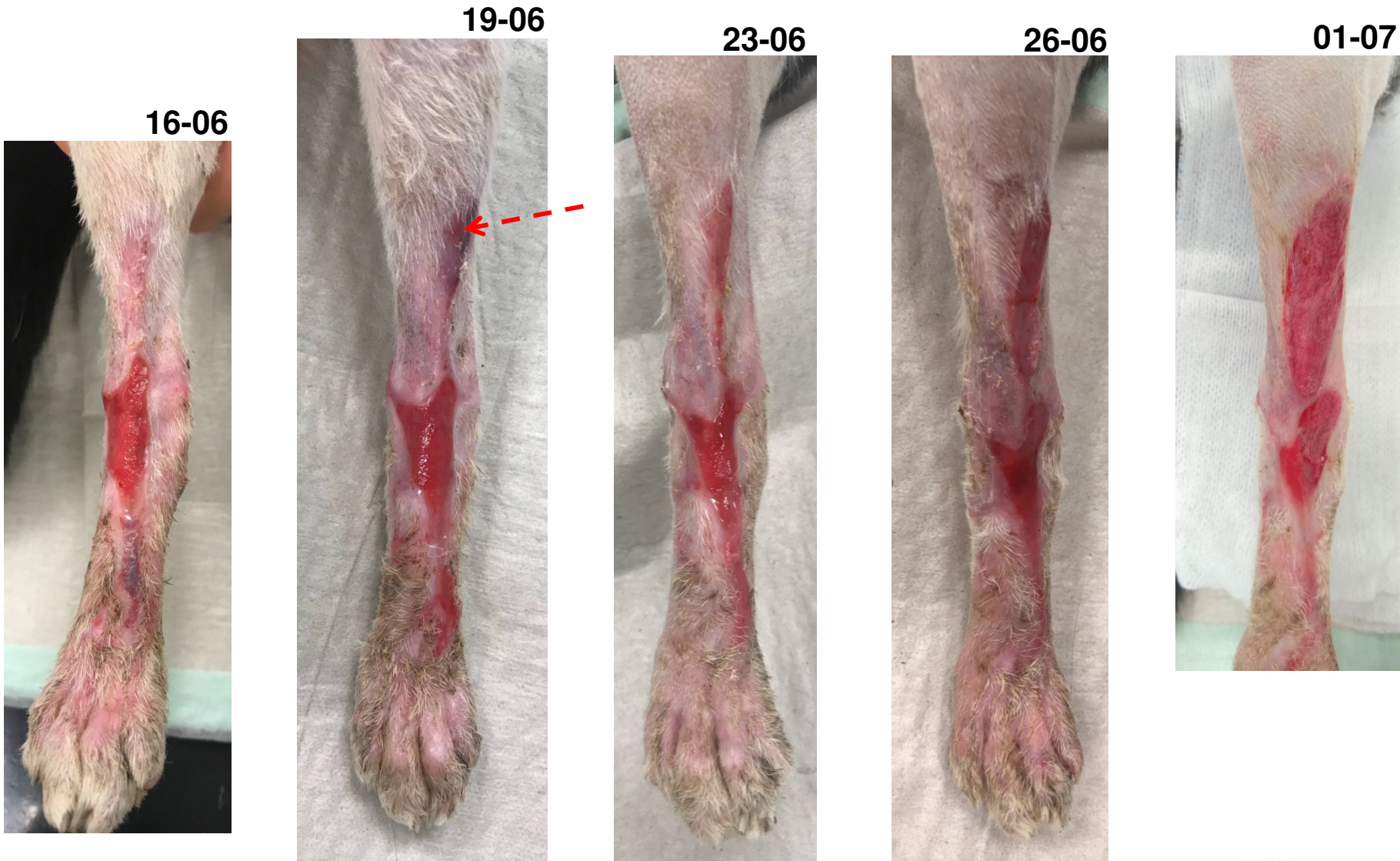
Real pressure
sore elbow



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Bandage or pressure sores: in all species

European shorthair cat



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Bandage or pressure sores: in all species

Horses

1. Most common, most difficult:

- Carpus: accessory carpal bone
- Tarsus: achilles tendon



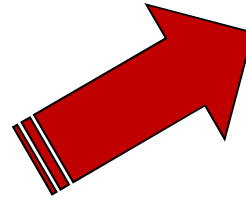
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Bandage or pressure sores: in all species

Horses

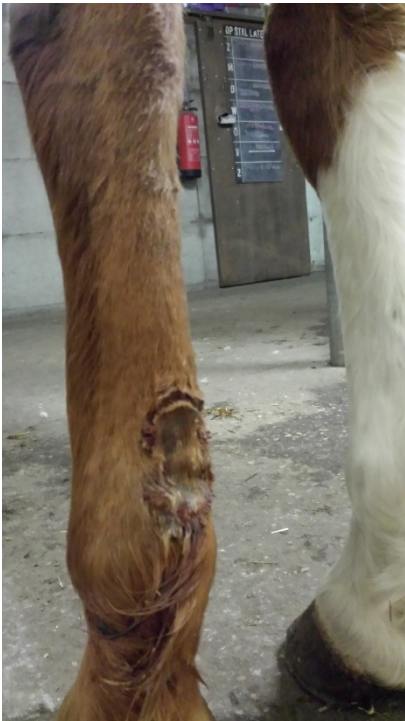
2. Less common:

- Metatarsus or Metacarpus
- dorsal and/or plantar/palmar
- Often the owner is involved.....



- Elastic bandages
- Too tight
- Not enough padding
- Too long period
- Become wet

24-10



07-11



30-11



WoumaTel

Bandage or pressure sores: in all species

Horses

3. Immobilization (casts, splints etc):

- ➡ proximal sesamoid bones
- ➡ upper limit of cast
 - heel bulbs and coronary band
 - bony prominences carpus, tarsus (accessory carpal bone, medial tuberosity radius, calcaneus, malleoli)
 - plantar mid-metatarsus (palmar mid-metacarpus)

Position:
incomplete extension:
pressure flexor
tendons



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Bandage or pressure sores: in all species

Horses

4. Real pressure sores:

- Animals in bad condition (foals or old horses)
- Insufficient bedding



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Equine bandage sores

Most common, most difficult:

- Carpus: accessory carpal bone
- Tarsus: achilles tendon

Causes: **BANDAGE**

- direct pressure (bandage too tight)
- Slipping resulting in pressure (bandage too loose or incorrect)

Prevention:

- Prevent pressure
- Prevent slipping



BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

Treatment:

- Treat the wound: dressings
- Relieve pressure
- Prevent slipping



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Equine bandage sores

Prevention/ relieve pressure:

Carpus: accessory carpal bone



Tarsus: achilles tendon



no extra padding



Add extra thick
and soft pad

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Equine bandage sores

Prevention pressure:

Carpus: accessory carpal bone



Orthopedic felt
(Cellona padding L&R)



artificial cotton role



no extra padding but
skip layers

OR: make
donut

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Equine bandage sores

Prevention pressure:

Tarsus: achilles tendon



05-10



14-11

**Add extra and
soft padding**

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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

1. Separate bulky bandage lower limb as support for carpal or tarsal bandage
2. Figure-8 wrapping
3. Adhesive bandage tape proximal and distal
4. Layer adhesive foam on skin at proximal site under bandage as antiskid
5. Fixate bandage to splint with strips of adhesive tape



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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

1. separate bulky bandage lower limb as support for carpal or tarsal bandage



Firm but not too tight



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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

2. Figure-8 wrapping carpus

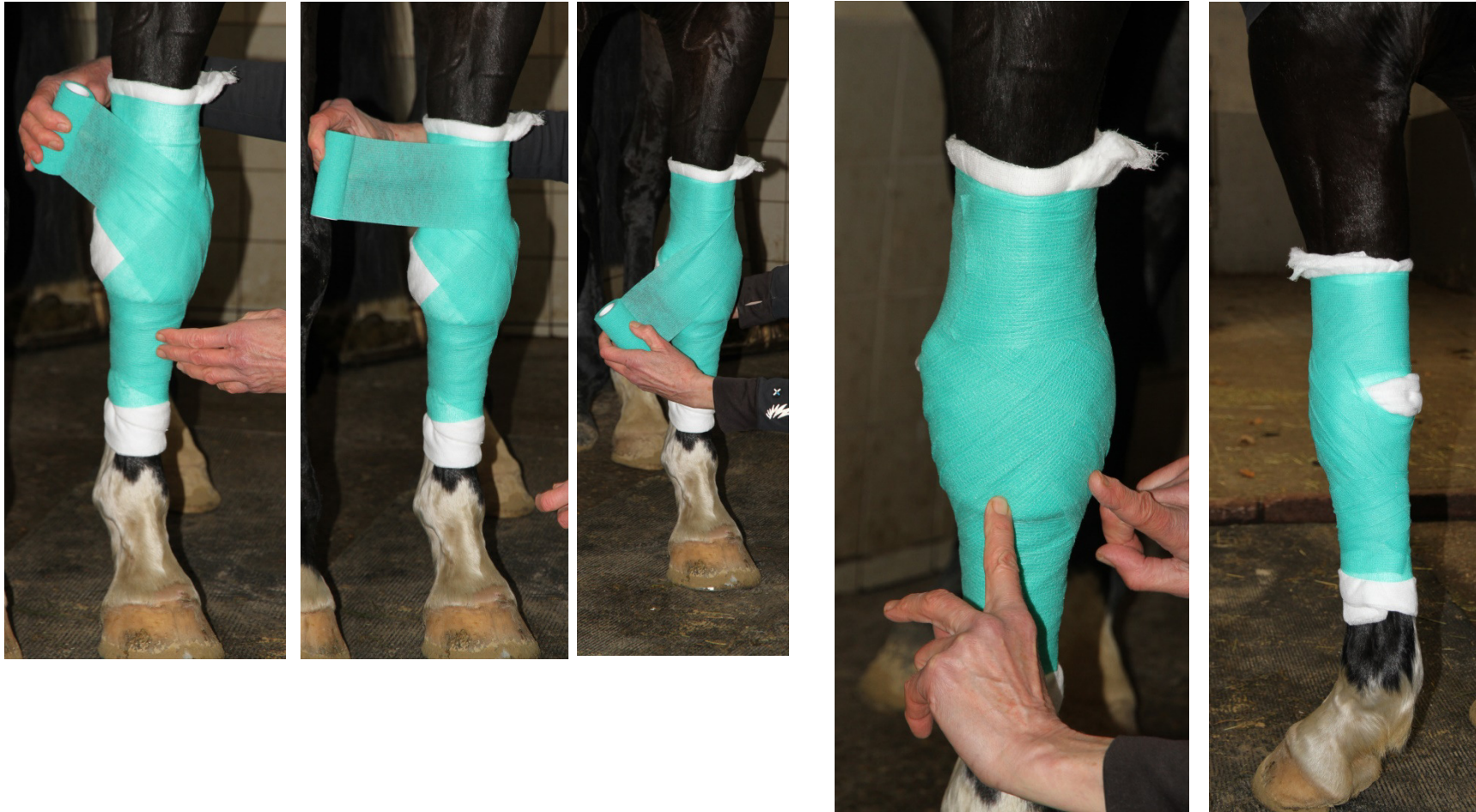


Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

2. Figure-8 wrapping carpus



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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

2. Figure-8 wrapping tarsus



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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

2. Figure-8 wrapping tarsus



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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

3. Adhesive bandage tape proximal and distal



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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

4. Layer adhesive foam on skin at proximal site under bandage as antiskid



Snogg Animal Polster
Reston (3M)
Kruuse Soft-flex Adhesive

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Equine bandage sores

Prevention slipping:

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

5. Fixate bandage to splint with strips of adhesive tape

From EWM



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Equine bandage sores: take home messages

1. Most important for both prevention and treatment of sores :

- Prevent pressure (too tight)
- Prevent slipping (too loose)

BANDAGING TECHNIQUES

2. A pressure sore will never heal when pressure is not relieved

- Carpus: donut
- Tarsus: thick pad

3. A bandage will never immobilize!!

- Use splint or sleeve cast



Prevention of sores is better than treatment

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