

**Dr. Sara Peters, DVM - Appleton, WI**

**Pro-Stride Case Experience - December 2016**

Nadine is an 8 year old Quarter Horse mare used for Western Pleasure showing. Nadine had undergone a personality change under saddle over the past 2-3 months prior to evaluation and would constantly be swishing her tail and tossing her head and was quite unpleasant to ride.

Watching her move initially, she was moderately lame in both hind limbs, with her left hind being worse than the right at the trot. She was initially worse picking up her right lead, in which the left hind is the leg to initiate the stride and provide the impulsion and power for the gait, and she was stiff in her hind end at the canter, held her head to the outside, swished her tail and flattened her ears. An abaxial block (mid-fetlock through the hoof) resulted in a 50% improvement. Desensitizing the rest of the fetlock with a low 4-point block resulted in a 90% improvement in the left hind and the right hind lameness became more pronounced. Additionally, she stopped swishing her tail, held her ears forward, and overall seemed much calmer and more relaxed. Radiographs of the fetlock showed mild thickening of proximal, lateral aspect of P1 at the lateral collateral ligament insertion. No other significant abnormalities were noted. Ultrasound of the fetlock and pastern revealed no soft tissue injuries and it was recommended to treat the fetlock directly.

Given the mare's young age and that the radiographs did not reveal marked bony change or loss of cartilage, regenerative therapy was recommended and the owners elected to have 2 injections of ProStride into both fetlocks, 3 weeks apart. There was significant improvement in her quality of movement after the first injection and the owners and trainer reported that after the second she was transformed into a different horse. The tail swishing under saddle disappeared, the canter was an even and smooth 3 beat gait again, and her muscle quality over her haunches and top line improved. Nadine returned to the show ring and did very well this season!