Lameness is the most common reason horse owners seek veterinary care and represents a significant economic loss to the horse industry. Prompt and proper diagnosis and treatment are key to a successful outcome and improved prognosis for lameness.

What do you do if your horse becomes lame? What do you do if the lameness persists?

The UF Equine Lameness & Imaging service is here for you. We provide a complete range of the most advanced diagnostic modalities, treatment options, and veterinary specialists available. We handle the simple and the most challenging lameness issues with a team approach and a plan specifically designed for you and your horse.

To schedule an appointment call 352-392-2229

www.largeanimal.vethospitals.ufl.edu
Meet Our Team

From left: Dr. Matt Winter, Dr. Alison Morton, Dr. Sarah Graham, Dr. Natasha Werpy

Dr. Alison Morton is board certified in Large Animal Surgery and Equine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation. She provides advanced lameness diagnosis, treatment, and rehabilitation services. She received her DVM from Ross University School of Veterinary Medicine. She completed a rotating large animal internship at the College of Veterinary Medicine at Washington State University, an equine surgical internship at the University of Pennsylvania School of Veterinary Medicine, and her large animal surgical residency at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. She also completed a Masters of Specialized Veterinary Medicine at North Carolina State University College of Veterinary Medicine. Following completion of her residency training, Dr. Morton spent two years in private practice before coming to the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine in 2004. Her clinical and research interests include performance horse medicine, osteoarthritis, diagnostic imaging, and colic.

Dr. Sarah Graham is board certified in Large Animal Surgery. She received her DVM from Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. She completed an internship at Arizona Equine Medical and Surgical Centre in Gilbert, Arizona, and her residency in large animal surgery at the University of Florida College of Veterinary Medicine. Following her residency, she became a faculty member at the University of Florida Large Animal Hospital in 2010. Her clinical and research interests include lameness and gait analysis, diagnostic imaging, colic surgery and wound therapy.

- High-Field (1.5 T) MRI
- Spiral Computed Tomography (CAT Scan)
- Nuclear Scintigraphy (Bone Scan)
- Digital Radiography
- Digital Ultrasonography
- Lameness Locator™
- High-Speed Treadmill
- Video Endoscopy
- Arthroscopy/Tenoscopy
- Extracorporeal Shockwave Therapy
- ACS/IRAP Therapy
- Stem Cell Therapy
- PRP Therapy
- Mesotherapy
- Acupuncture
- Therapeutic Farriery
- Prepurchase Examinations
- Performance Evaluations
- Joint Injections

Success Story: A Sound Treatment Plan

What if the cause of lameness is localized to the foot, but can't be identified on routine radiographs or ultrasound?

Follow the lameness diagnosis and treatment plan of Roanie, the 13 year-old quarter horse, who used the advanced diagnostic and treatment options provided at the UF Large Animal Hospital to get him back to his reining career.

Read More >>

HORSE OWNER ALERTS

Cribbing and colic
Dr. Natasha Werpy is board certified in Radiology and is internationally recognized for her expertise in equine MRI and ultrasound. She received her DVM from Colorado State University. She performed an equine imaging internship with Dr. Norman Rantanen and completed a residency in Diagnostic Imaging with Colorado State University College of Veterinary Medicine and Dr. Norman Rantanen. Dr. Werpy has been in academic and private practice for several years and joined UF in the fall of 2011. Her clinical interests are diagnostic imaging, specifically musculoskeletal imaging with emphasis on MRI and ultrasound.

Dr. Matthew Winter is board certified in Radiology. He received his DVM from Cornell University College of Veterinary Medicine. Following veterinary school, he practiced equine medicine for two years, then completed a residency in Radiology from Cummings School of Veterinary Medicine at Tufts University. He was on faculty at Iowa State College of Veterinary Medicine following his residency before joining our faculty at the University of Florida in 2007. His clinical and research interests are orthopedic MRI, neuroradiology, and cartilage imaging.

What Does It Mean To Be A Board-Certified Specialist?

To become a board-certified specialist requires completion of advanced training programs and examinations after completing a doctorate of veterinary medicine and becoming a veterinarian. Each specialty has a college that is overseen by the American Veterinary Medical Association (AVMA) which regulates their specific training programs. Each program has specific requirements. Here’s a list of some of the requirements that our specialists in our Equine Lameness & Imaging Service met to become board-certified by their colleges:

**Large Animal Surgery** - A board certified veterinary specialist in large animal surgery has successfully completed the certification requirements of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons. These requirements include successful completion of a Doctorate of Veterinary Medicine (DVM) or equivalent degree, completion of a one-year large animal-related internship, and acceptance into an ACVS-accredited three-year residency program. This three year program includes advanced clinical surgical training and completion of specialty clinical training in internal medicine, radiology, anesthesiology, and pathology. It also includes completion of a research project, publication of research results in a peer-reviewed veterinary journal, participation in didactic and clinical training of students and other veterinarians, acceptance of credentials to take the board-
Equine Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation - Veterinarians that are board-certified in Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation have successfully completed the certification requirements of the American College of Veterinary Sports Medicine and Rehabilitation (ACVSMR). In order to become board-certified by the ACVSMR, veterinarians must complete at least a one-year internship and a three-year residency at an approved veterinary hospital under the supervision of the ACVSMR. They must perform a research project and publish the results in a peer-reviewed veterinary journal. Because this is a new specialty, only a few ACVSMR diplomates exist. These diplomates were chosen based on their credentials in sports medicine and rehabilitation, and then passed a rigorous two-day examination to become board-certified. The UF Large Animal Hospital is one of only a few veterinary hospitals to have a board-certified equine sports medicine and rehabilitation specialist.

Veterinary Radiology - More accurately termed diagnostic imaging, veterinarians that specialize in diagnostic imaging are board-certified by the American College of Veterinary Radiology (ACVR). To become board-certified by the ACVR, veterinarians must have completed an internship or worked at a large private practice with a high caseload for one to two years, be accepted into an ACVR-approved three to four year Veterinary Residency Program, and pass the ACVR Radiology (written and oral) or Radiation Oncology (written) board-certification examination. Residents must complete a research project, and publish results in a peer-reviewed veterinary journal. Residency training also includes didactic training and teaching. Following completion of requirements, residents must pass two certification examinations to become board-certified.