



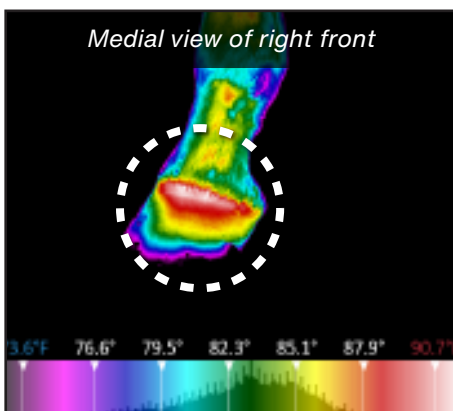
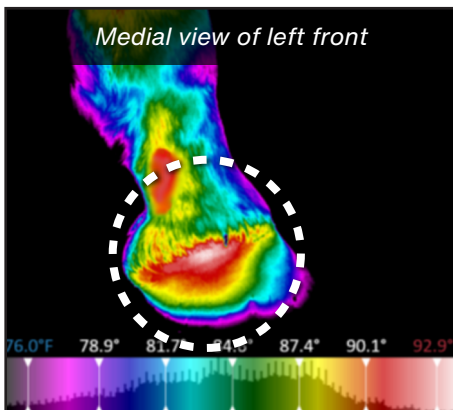
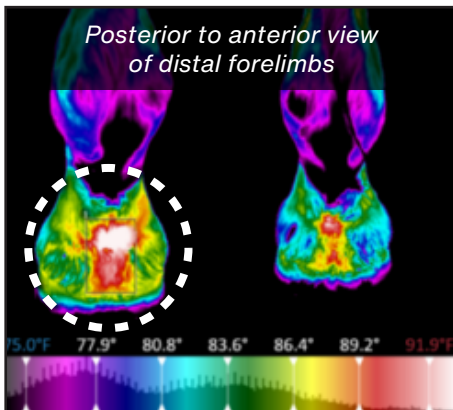
## Presentation

**Owner** Intermittent lameness; LF; two months duration. The patient blocked sound on an abaxial sesamoid block during a previous lameness exam three weeks prior. Radiographs of the fetlock and foot were negative. The patient was rested for two weeks, walked soundly, and then lame again after being ridden for a brief period.

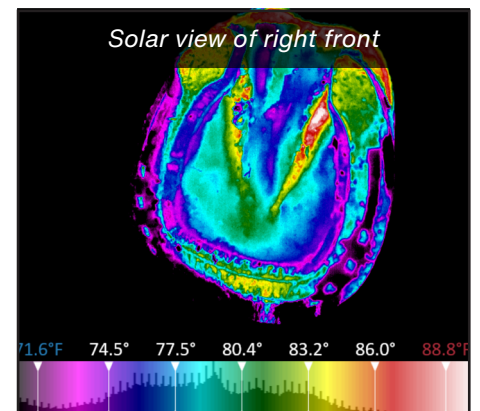
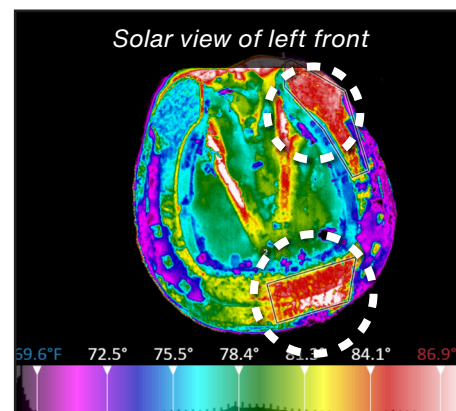
**Lameness exam** Intermittent Grade 1 lameness of right forelimb. Digital palpation, flexion tests of both the carpus and fetlock and hoof testers were all negative.



## WellVu Thermal Imaging



<b>Finding</b>	The posterior to anterior of the distal front feet and fetlocks presents an area of asymmetrical focal hyperthermia in the medial area of the pastern and proximal to the medial bulb of the heel within the left foot.
<b>Impression</b>	Increased tissue perfusion due to inflammation involving the underlying soft tissue structures.
<b>Finding</b>	Asymmetrical area of hyperthermia palmar-medially on the left pastern. This area extends from just distal to the fetlock and extends distally and caudally towards the coronary band.
<b>Impression</b>	Increased perfusion of this area that could be the result of underlying inflammation or a compensatory strain.
<b>Finding</b>	Asymmetrical hyperthermia along the medial portion of the coronary band of the left foot that extends distally through the laminae
<b>Impression</b>	Increased perfusion of these structures due to the patient landing unevenly while compensating for pain.
<b>Finding</b>	On the solar views of both front feet there are asymmetrical areas of hyperthermia present on the surface of the shoe on both the medial aspect of the toe and left heel.
<b>Impression</b>	Uneven placement of the foot while compensating for another disorder



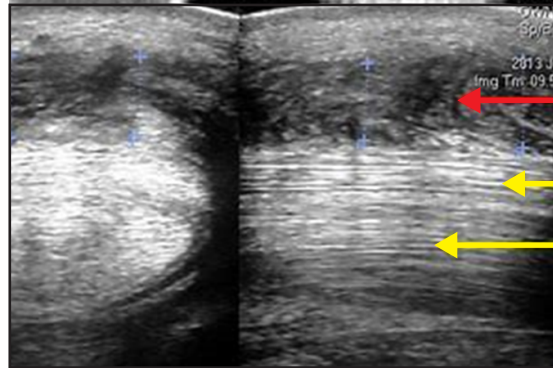
# Better Care for Equine Athletes



## Intervention Based on Findings

### Further Imaging

- Radiographic study: NSF
- Ultrasound study.
- Hypoechoic lesion in deep digital annular ligament



PAL

SDF

DDF



## Patient Benefits

- The client was able to visualize the disorder's involvement and how it caused the horse to compensate and strain the surrounding structures.
- Objective baseline temperature data for comparison on future re-evaluations.



## Practice Benefits

- IRTI provided a precise area for radiograph and ultrasonic study.
- The IRTI exam provided visual baseline temperature data, allowing objective monitoring of the healing process.
- IRTI saved valuable time while performing the lameness exam.



## Take-Aways

1. The IRTIs of this patient identified the area causing the primary lameness issue and allowed visualization of the compensatory stress placed on the medial aspect of the distal left forelimb.
2. Incorporating IRTI into a lameness exam helps identify all structures that would benefit from further examinations and diagnostic procedures.