



TILDREN FACTSHEET

The Belmont House Equine Clinic



What is Tildren?

'Tildren' is composed of Tiludronic acid, a bisphosphonate which inhibits bone resorption in horses. It aids in the treatment of lameness associated with arthritis in bone spavin. It works best in cases existing less than 6 months.

Licencing:

Tildren is a licensed product in Europe and has been used in Europe successfully for the past few years to treat lameness conditions particularly navicular disease and bone spavin. Trials have been carried out in veterinary centres across the UK and Tildren is now licenced here.

Bone regulation:

In a normal horse bone is constantly being remodelled. This allows the skeletal structure to adapt to the mechanical stresses to which we subject them to. There are two types of cells constantly working together to create 'new' bone tissue.

- I. **Osteoclasts** – 'bone nibblers'. These cause bone lysis, which involves the digestion of bone at microscopic level. These cells become activated if 'new space' needs to be created so that an adjustment of bone density can occur in response to mechanical stresses on the joints.
- II. **Osteoblasts** – 'bone synthesisers'. These synthesise collagen the basic material used in bone formation. They trigger collagen mineralization and create denser bone. However they work much more slowly than osteoclasts.

When bone undergoes excessive stresses, e.g. in a competition horse, bone remodelling goes into overdrive. This generally leads to either lytic areas where the bone is less dense and washed out or sclerotic areas which are denser and less flexible.

How Tildren works:

Tildren works by regulating bone tissue remodelling in cases where there is too much bone resorption. It helps to activate the osteoblasts and reduce the work of the osteoclasts (bone nibblers). It has anti-inflammatory effects on arthritis, by inhibiting the secretion of cartilage resorbing enzymes.

Diagnosis:

A full lameness work up will be carried out and the area of lameness identified. X-rays will also be taken prior to administration of Tildren.

Tildren administration:

1. Your horse will be sedated so that s/he stands still whilst being dripped!
2. A catheter will be placed in the vein after being aseptically prepared.
3. The Tildren preparation will be mixed according to the weight of your horse into 1 litre of saline.
4. This will be slowly dripped into your horse over about 45 minutes.
5. The catheter and drip will then be removed.
6. Your horse may be given an anti-spasmodic drug to help prevent transient colic.
7. Your horse will slowly wake up and must be monitored for any adverse signs over the next 2 hours without feed.

Possible side effects:

- ❖ Sweating, slight muscle tremors and transient colic 1-2 hours post administration.
- ❖ A localised reaction over the vein where the catheter was placed.
- ❖ Excitation, excess salivation and tiredness are also possible temporary reactions.
- ❖ Make sure the horse can lie down without restriction.

Warnings:

Tildren should not be administered to:

- ❖ Horses under the age of 3 years.
- ❖ Pregnant or lactating mares.