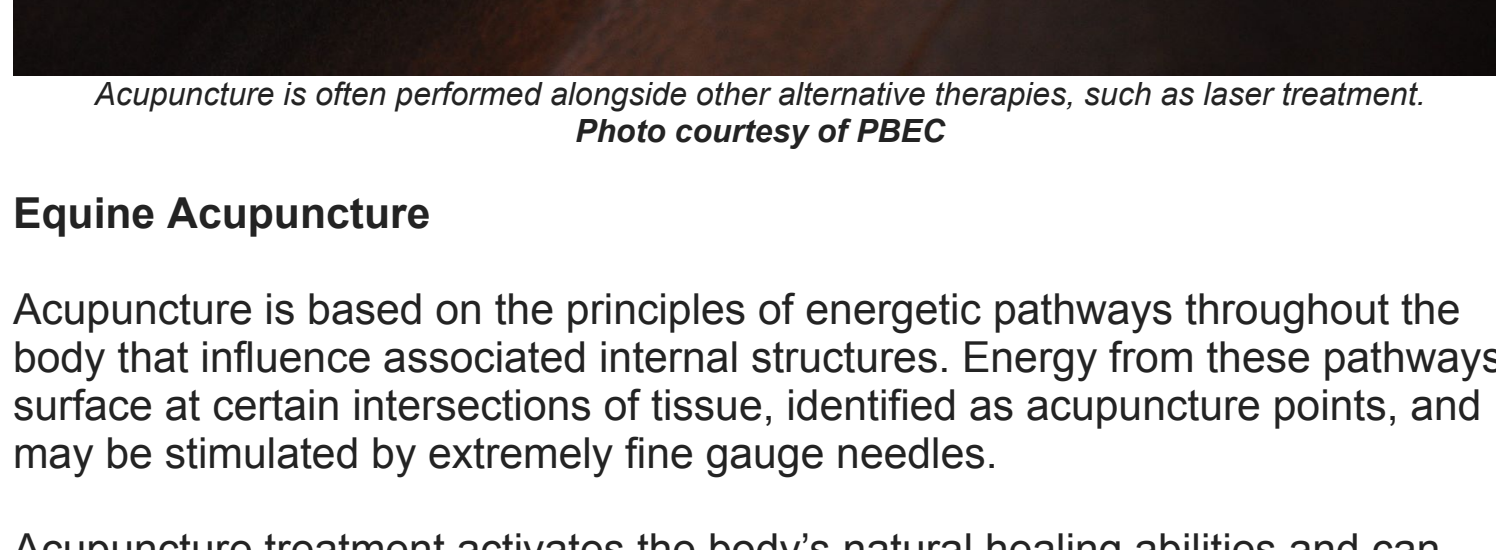


**Keep Reading To...**

- Learn about alternative medicine at PBEC
- See our alternative therapy veterinarians in action
- Apply for our Internship Program
- And more

**Alternative Therapies: Help Your Horse Achieve Optimal Health and Performance**

Employing a holistic approach to treating patients, Palm Beach Equine Clinic considers all the available avenues for health care. Alternative therapies are often used in conjunction with traditional medicine and can be uniquely tailored to enhance a horse's performance and overall health. Palm Beach Equine Clinic boasts trained alternative medicine practitioners who specialize in acupuncture, medical manipulation, Chinese herbal medicine, laser therapy, and shockwave services.



Acupuncture is often performed alongside other alternative therapies, such as laser treatment. Photo courtesy of PBEC

**Equine Acupuncture**

Acupuncture is based on the principles of energetic pathways throughout the body that influence associated internal structures. Energy from these pathways surface at certain intersections of tissue, identified as acupuncture points, and may be stimulated by extremely fine gauge needles.

Acupuncture treatment activates the body's natural healing abilities and can address a wide variety of issues. Research has indicated that acupuncture may be an effective adjunct therapy for musculoskeletal, neurological, gastrointestinal, respiratory, and endocrine conditions. Acupuncture may induce physiological effects such as pain management, gastrointestinal regulation, decreased inflammation, and increased circulation.

**Acupuncture: Did You Know?**

Acupuncture exams start by taking a look at the horse's tongue to see if it is discolored, swollen, or thin, all of which can indicate different systems and disorders.

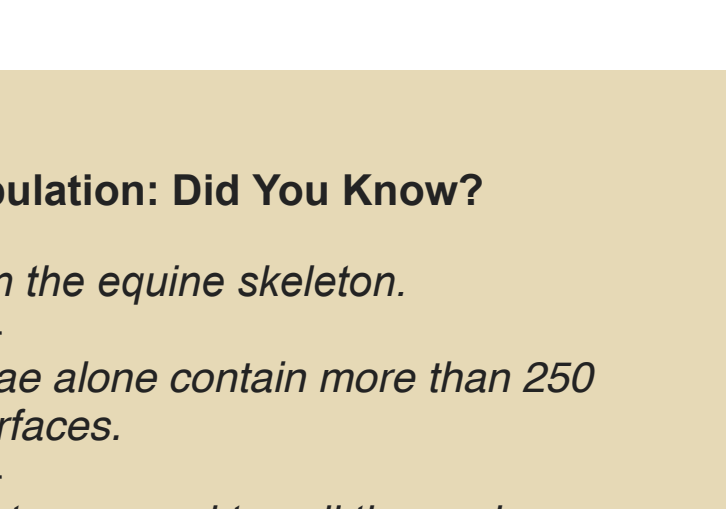
There is energy running throughout a horse's body and this energy travels on pathways called meridians. Many meridians cross right over horses' joints, allowing specific meridians to be used to treat joint issues.

All meridians meet at what is called Baihui, or Thousand Meetings, an allowance point near the highest point on the horse's back.

At horse shows, you may see horses with a staple at the base of their forelocks. That spot is actually an acupuncture point that calms the mind and focuses the horse.

**Veterinary Medical Manipulation**

Veterinary Medical Manipulation is a form of manual therapy performed by a veterinarian who applies varying amounts of pressure to specific anatomical areas. Equine medical manipulation is most often focused on the vertebral column and is used to address joint issues, muscular development, stimulate nerve reflexes, and reduce pain. Horses with a declined performance, uneven gaits, collection issues or intermittent lameness may benefit from veterinary medical manipulation.



Dr. Natalia Novoa performs a veterinary medical manipulation on a patient. Photo by Jump Media

Veterinary medical manipulation is a popular treatment for high-level performance horses across disciplines. The Palm Beach Equine Clinic team is complete with veterinarians specialized in medical manipulation to properly evaluate and treat a variety of disorders that traditional medicine may not address.

**Veterinary Medical Manipulation: Did You Know?**

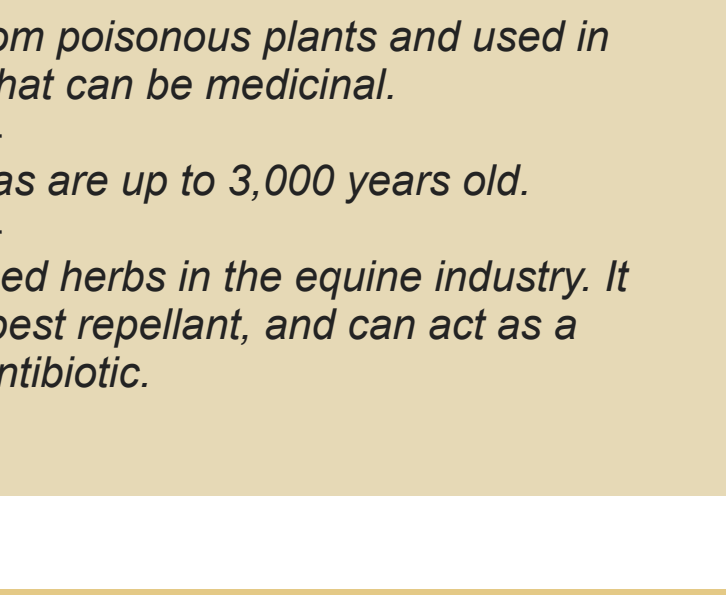
There are 205 bones in the equine skeleton.

The thoracic and lumbar vertebrae alone contain more than 250 joint surfaces.

Veterinarians are technically not supposed to call themselves "chiropractors;" it's strictly a human term.

**Chinese Herbal Medicine**

Herbal (or botanical) medicine is the foundation of modern pharmaceuticals and can be used to promote optimal health and remedy a wide range of issues. As herbivores, horses naturally seek out different plants for self-treatment. Chinese herbal medicine is aimed at treating the underlying causes of an issue to encourage the body to heal itself, rather than synthetic medications that only temporarily treat the presenting symptoms.



Various medicinal herbs serve different purposes in horse health and can be a great alternative when western medicine is not the right choice. Photo courtesy of PBEC Pharmacy

Horses can benefit greatly from Chinese herbal medicine and these therapies are often used to address anhidrosis, behavioral issues, poor digestion, and circulation issues. Herbal treatments are often combined with other alternative therapies, such as acupuncture, in keeping with ancient Chinese tradition. As with any medication, herbal medicine should not be used casually. Consultation with a Palm Beach Equine Clinic veterinarian is recommended before beginning herbal medicine treatment.

**Chinese Herbal Medicine: Did You Know?**

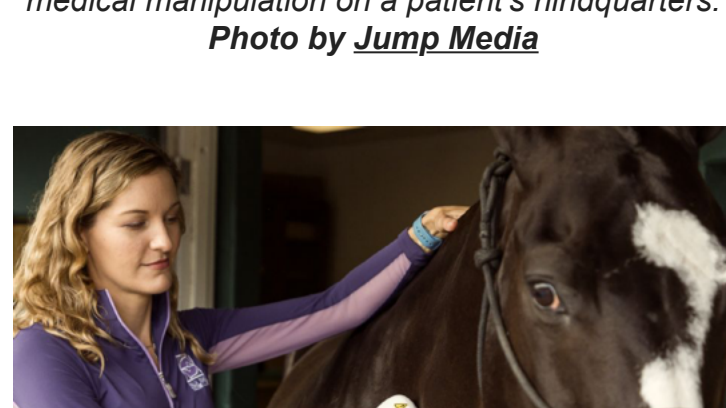
Some herbs are actually taken from poisonous plants and used in very small quantities that can be medicinal.

Some Chinese herbal formulas are up to 3,000 years old.

Garlic is one of the most widely used herbs in the equine industry. It improves blood flow, acts as a pest repellent, and can act as a natural antibiotic.

**See Our Alternative Medicine Veterinarians in Action**

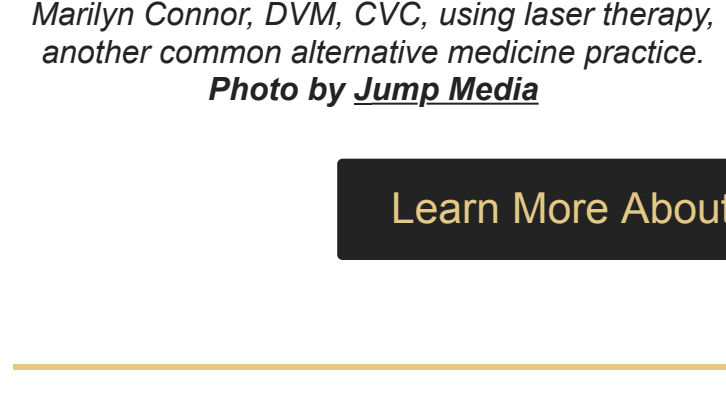
Whether it's for an Olympic hopeful or a reliable trail horse, Palm Beach Equine Clinic has nearly 40 years of proven success keeping horses healthy and happy while working to extend their performance careers. Our veterinarians provide the best alternative therapies to optimize health and increase the longevity of the horse's performance career. Check out our PBEC veterinarians who specialize in alternative medicine as they treat horses below.



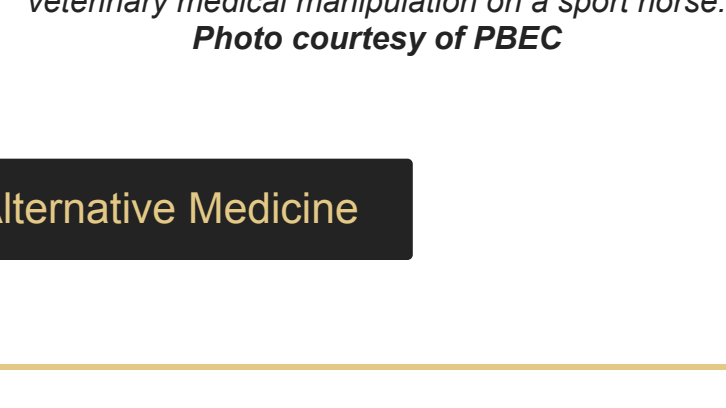
Janet Greenfield Davis, BVMS, MRCVS, CVA, CERPM, performs the "seven" on a horse's hind end. Photo by Jump Media



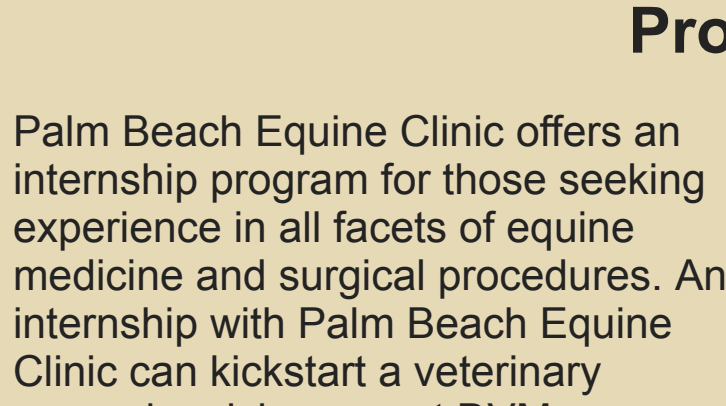
Meredith Mitchell, DVM, CVA, performs electro-acupuncture on a patient. Photo by Jump Media



Natalia Novoa, DVM, performs a veterinary medical manipulation on a patient's hindquarters. Photo by Jump Media



Selma Watt, DVM, performs acupuncture therapy at the base of a horse's neck at a horse show. Photo courtesy of PBEC



Marilyn Connor, DVM, CVC, using laser therapy, another common alternative medicine practice. Photo by Jump Media



Ryan Lukens, DVM, CVMP, performs a veterinary medical manipulation on a sport horse. Photo courtesy of PBEC

[Learn More About Alternative Medicine](#)

**PBEC Now Accepting Applications for Internship Program**

Palm Beach Equine Clinic offers an internship program for those seeking experience in all facets of equine medicine and surgical procedures. An internship with Palm Beach Equine Clinic can kickstart a veterinary career by giving recent DVM graduates clinical experience on a variety of equine medical conditions before they advance into associate positions.



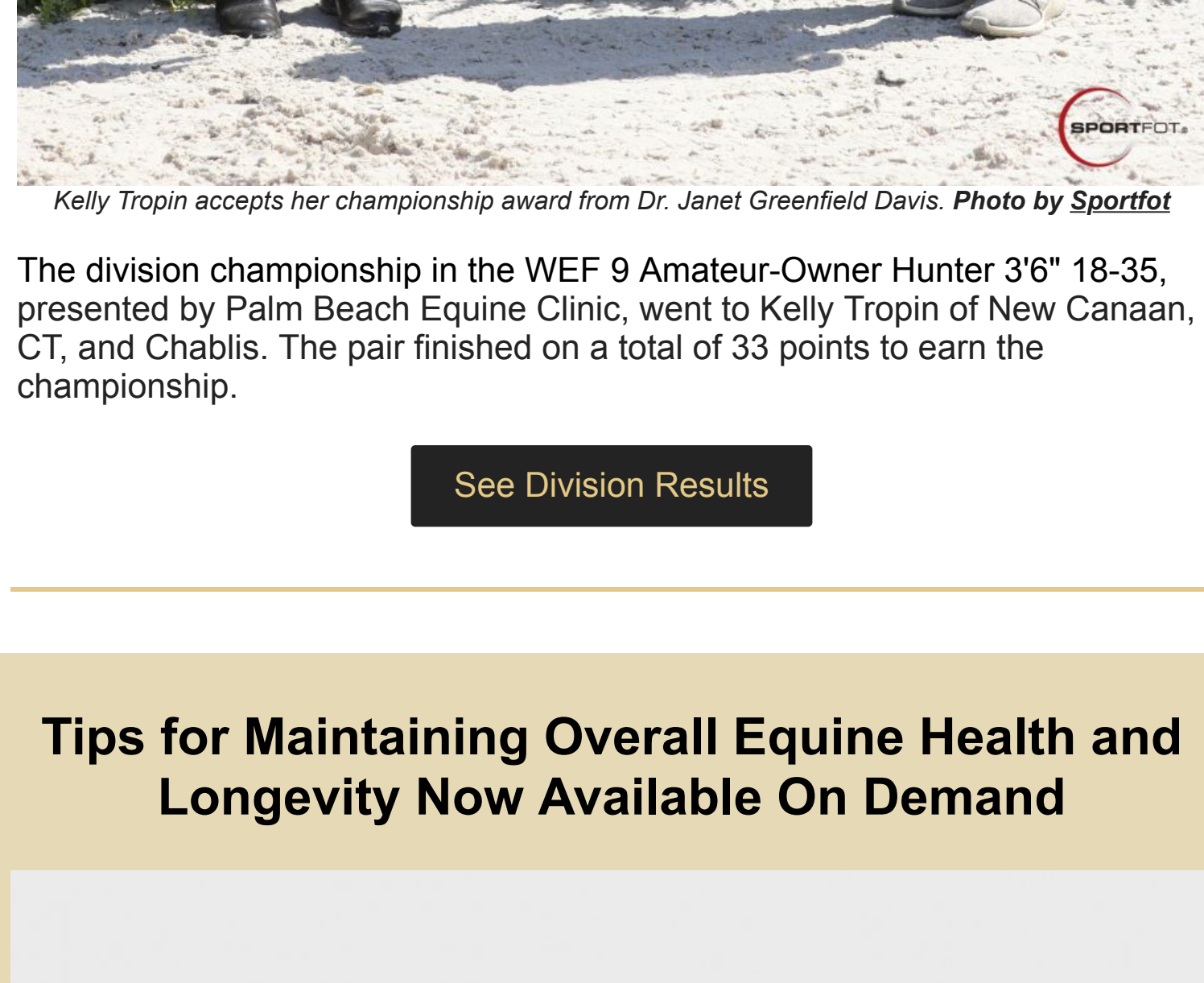
Photo courtesy of PBEC

Palm Beach Equine Clinic interns are responsible for many duties including hospital patient care, surgery and anesthesia, ambulatory, diagnostic imaging, and emergency care. Outside of patient care, interns are responsible for keeping up proper, detailed records and must also participate in ongoing education through research and journaling.

[Apply Here](#)

**Chablis Named Amateur-Owner Hunter Champion During WEF 9**

Kelly Tropin Pilots Chablis in PBEC Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'6" 18-35



Kelly Tropin accepts her championship award from Dr. Janet Greenfield Davis. Photo by SportPro

The division championship in the WEF 9 Amateur-Owner Hunter 3'6" 18-35, presented by Palm Beach Equine Clinic, went to Kelly Tropin of New Canaan, CT, and Chablis. The pair finished on a total of 33 points to earn the championship.

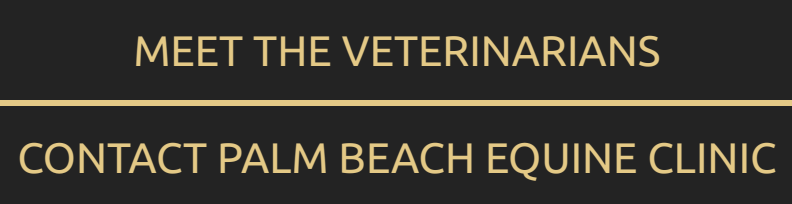
[See Division Results](#)

**Tips for Maintaining Overall Equine Health and Longevity Now Available On Demand**



As a proud sponsor of the 2021 PBIEC Educational Series, presented by Adequan®, PBEC vets hosted a virtual educational webinar during the Winter Equestrian Festival (WEF) 2. During the session, entitled "Tips for Maintaining Overall Equine Health and Longevity," Drs. Marilyn Connor, Tyler Davis, and Ryan Lukens offered valuable insight to participants based on their respective areas of expertise, including Sports Medicine and Regenerative Therapies, Dentistry, and Veterinary Medical Manipulation. If you missed the live session, the full presentation is now available on demand.

[Watch On Demand](#)



[ABOUT THE CLINIC](#)

[CLINIC SERVICES](#)

[MEET THE VETERINARIANS](#)

[CONTACT PALM BEACH EQUINE CLINIC](#)