

Therapeutic Touch® with 2 non-human healing partners - a bull and a horse

I'm a relatively new RP (Recognized Practitioner), having just retired from my full time Occupational Therapy (OT) job in rural Alberta. I took my first Therapeutic Touch (R) course 5 years ago, and am now having a wonderful time practicing TT combined with OT. I'm a country girl, and really enjoy being around animals, so it only follows that, when an opportunity presents itself, I jump at the chance to practice TT on animals. So, here are a couple of examples I thought you might find interesting.

My first equine Healing Partner (HP) was Cass, a young stallion who had a draining, infected abscess to his right lower jaw. First diagnosed as a tooth abscess, it was eventually found to be a fracture – he'd been kicked by another horse around June of 2015. Antibiotics had helped only temporarily. By the time I met Cass in January of 2016, he had lost a lot of weight, had no energy, and walked with his head down – a very sad sight! I said hello and gave him some time to get to know me, then proceeded with my assessment and clearing, just as I was taught – head to feet, grounding at his feet, modulating where I felt differences. I'd also been taught to stop when I felt it was time to stop. I was surprised when that feeling hit me after only five minutes into the session, but thankful that I listened to it. When his “mother” went to lead him back to the pasture she laughed so hard: he was so relaxed his legs wobbled under him. Goodness knows what would have happened if I'd kept going longer.

I continued with weekly sessions, which he really seemed to enjoy, and was amazed at his progress. In one week, his “mother” reported that he seemed much livelier, throwing his grain bucket around and such. In two weeks he was galloping to the gate for his grain. In three weeks the pus had stopped draining and it was crusted over. In four weeks, there was no more pus or drainage, only nice red blood, and he was much friskier. Five weeks showed only a small, dry red spot at the drainage site, and by six weeks it was completely closed over. By eight weeks the hair was growing over it as well. And today his “mother” is again able to ride him, and I occasionally see him for barbwire injuries and such. I'm thankful to have had such a willing, gentle fellow to learn with, and he gives me a great example when someone talks about the placebo effect!

The fellow in the picture is a slightly bigger HP I was able to practice on – my sister's 2,500 lb bull named Beau, short for Beaudacious. Beau had an abscess or corn between the toes of his front foot, causing a terrible limp. Again, a very gentle, trusting fellow but after weeks of antibiotic injections he was quite fed up with the chute and such. The first time I saw him was out in the field, and he relaxed wonderfully. The second time my sister wanted to also soak his foot with Epsom salts, but simply could not convince him to put his foot in the washtub! A few minutes of TT calmed him down enough to put his foot in the tub and even keep it there! This and some Oil of oregano drops added seemed to help to reduce the swelling. Unfortunately I was only visiting for a few days, so three sessions was all we got together. My sister now reports that the Epsom salts and Colloidal silver drops seem to be helping, to the point where he no longer limps at all. And one day when she was running late, he walked right into the chute and started bellowing at her! While my three sessions didn't contribute a lot, I feel at least it helped him relax enough to accept her other treatments, and he's doing well.

I am so blessed to have been able to work with these two amazing Healing Partners, what a great experience!

Betty Whitney, TTRP