

Clear Path HTC and Pest Control in Equine Wound Care **[Adjunct: Two separate issues, both critical to best outcomes]**

Clear Path HTC is intended to manage the **wound microenvironment**. Pest control products are intended to manage **external insect pressure**. These are separate problems and should be addressed separately.

In warm, humid equine environments, especially regions such as South Florida, the best wound-care outcomes often require both:

1. **A cleaner, better-controlled wound bed** using Clear Path HTC
2. **Reduced fly pressure around the horse and wound area** using appropriate pest-control methods according to their own product directions

Clear Path HTC is not presented as a fly repellent, insecticide, larvicide, or pest-control product. It is the wound-care component of the protocol. Pest-control products should be selected and used separately, following their own labeling and veterinarian or stable-management guidance.

The wound issue: Clear Path HTC

Clear Path HTC addresses the wound surface and wound microenvironment.

Its role is to help:

- cleanse contaminated equine wounds
- support debridement
- reduce wound debris and exudate
- reduce microbial and biofilm burden
- reduce malodor associated with contaminated, necrotic, or bacterial wound material
- prepare the wound for dressing, bandaging, and protection

This is especially important in hot, moist environments because wound odor, exudate, necrotic tissue, and bacterial burden can make the wound more attractive to flies. Clear Path HTC helps address those wound conditions at the tissue level.

Remember: “**Clear Path HTC helps manage the wound conditions that attract flies. It is not itself a fly-control product.**”

The pest issue: separate pest-control measures

Fly pressure is an external environmental problem. Even a well-cleansed wound can be re-exposed if flies remain active around the horse, stall, pasture, or bandage area.

Pest-control methods may include topical repellents, physical barriers, stable hygiene, traps, fans, premise products, or other barn-management practices. The choice of pest-control method should remain product-neutral and situation-specific.

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The core rule is: **“Use Clear Path HTC for the wound. Use pest-control products for flies and insects, according to their own directions. Do not mix the two.”**

Why both issues matter

Clear Path HTC and pest control work on different parts of the same wound-care challenge.

Clear Path HTC helps reduce the wound signals that attract flies, including contaminated exudate, necrotic odor, bacterial burden, and biofilm. Pest-control measures help reduce the chance that flies reach the wound area after it has been cleaned and dressed.

If only the wound is treated, flies may still re-contaminate the area. If only flies are addressed, the wound may remain contaminated, malodorous, and slow to heal. Best outcomes require controlling both the wound microenvironment and the insect environment.

Neem oil as a fly-deterring adjunct

Neem oil may be considered as one possible fly-deterring adjunct around the wound-care protocol, provided it is used appropriately and according to applicable product directions.

Neem oil is commonly used in equine and barn settings as a natural odor and insect-deterring ingredient. Its practical role in this protocol would be **external fly deterrence**, not wound treatment.

Neem oil may be used as a fly-deterring adjunct around the wound area or on intact surrounding coat or skin, when appropriate and consistent with the product’s directions. It should not be applied into the open wound bed unless the specific product is labeled for that use and the veterinarian approves.

Important use boundaries:

- Apply only to intact surrounding areas unless the product is specifically labeled for open wounds.
- Avoid contact with the wound bed, exposed tissue, eyes, mucous membranes, or deep structures.
- Avoid oily buildup on bandages or dressings unless approved by the veterinarian.
- Do not mix neem oil with Clear Path HTC.
- Do not apply neem oil immediately before Clear Path HTC if it may coat the tissue and interfere with wound cleansing.
- Use neem oil as part of external fly-pressure management, not as a replacement for wound cleansing, bandaging, or veterinarian-directed care.

In simple terms: **“Clear Path HTC manages the wound. Neem oil may help deter flies around the wound area. They should be used separately.”**

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Recommended integrated protocol language

Step 1: Treat the wound microenvironment

Use Clear Path HTC as the wound wash, rinse, and pre-bandage solution under veterinarian guidance. Cleanse the wound, support debridement, reduce wound burden, and prepare the tissue for dressing.

Step 2: Protect the treated wound

Apply a clean dressing or bandage as directed. Keep the wound covered when appropriate to reduce contamination and fly access.

Step 3: Manage external fly pressure

Use pest-control measures separately and according to their own labels. This may include barn hygiene, fly barriers, traps, fans, topical repellents, neem oil products, or other appropriate methods.

Step 4: Keep the two functions separate

Do not treat Clear Path HTC as an insect-control product. Do not treat insect-control products as wound-care products. Both are important, but they serve different purposes.

Overall Understanding

In warm, humid environments, equine wound care has two separate challenges: the wound microenvironment and the insect environment. Clear Path HTC is designed to help manage the wound by cleansing contaminated tissue, reducing biofilm and odor-producing wound burden, and preparing the wound for dressing. Pest-control products, including options such as neem oil when used appropriately, may help reduce fly pressure around the wound area. These tools should be used separately and according to their own instructions. Together, wound cleansing and fly-pressure management support better conditions for healing.

Conclusion

Clear Path HTC and pest control solve two different problems.

Clear Path HTC supports the wound microenvironment by cleansing contaminated tissue, reducing biofilm and microbial burden, reducing odor-producing wound material, and preparing the wound for dressing. Pest-control measures address external insect pressure that can re-contaminate or disturb the wound after treatment.

In humid, fly-heavy equine environments, both are critical. Clear Path HTC should be used for the wound. Pest-control products, including neem oil where appropriate, should be used separately for fly-pressure management and always according to their own directions.