**PRESSURE TEST- Evaluation of Synovial Communication**

**WHEN-** More commonly, the communication between wound and synovial structure is more subtle and hard to define. In this instance, veterinarians confirm or rule out the breach of a synovial structure by rapidly performing specific diagnostic tests.

Sterile irrigation fluids (lactated ringer’s solution [LRS], saline–0.9 should be infused under pressure using an IV extension set(30inches) attached to the hub of the needle to help account for movement from the horse. During fluid distension, closely watch the wound site for any leakage of fluid. If no leakage at the wound is observed and fluid comes back out from the needle hub under pressure when disconnected from the extension set, infuse antibiotics into the synovial space through the needle and then remove the needle. If leakage of fluid is observed from the wound site, communication between the wound and synovial space has been confirmed. If this is the case, continued through-and-through joint needle lavage can occur through the placement of multiple large-bore(14-to16-gauge) needles in various locations circumferentially around the synovial structure before antibiotic infusion, needle removal, and bandaging.

Source- How to Manage Penetrating Injuries of Synovial Structures in the Field -Shannon J.Murray, DVM, MS ,Diplomate ACVS