Locking compression plate osteosynthesis of complicated mandibular fractures in 6 horses.

Summary / Zusammenfassung
Mandibular fractures are a common injury in horses. Most of these fractures involve the incisive region and are easily repaired using cerclage wires. However, more caudally located, complicated fractures represent a challenge for osteosynthesis. Currently, plate osteosynthesis is considered the most stable fixation construct. Several unique properties of mandibular fractures (e.g. open fractures, limitation of screw length by tooth roots) have led to difficulties even with plate osteosynthesis. A new osteosynthesis system, i.e. the locking compression plate system, offers several mechanical advantages and has the potential to improve surgical therapy of complicated mandibular fractures in horses.

In this study, a case series of 6 horses suffering from complicated mandibular fractures treated with the locking compression plate system is described. In spite of the difficulties associated with these fractures (many comminuted, widely displaced, open or infected fractures), the locking compression plate system provided stable fixation of the bones and allowed an excellent outcome in all patients.

In conclusion, locking compression plate system is suitable for osteosynthesis of complicated equine mandibular fractures.

Keywords / Suchbegriffe
horse, mandibular fracture, locking compression plate system

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