

### USE OF THE K-LASER IN EXOTIC PRACTICE

**Mark Rowland** BVSc CertZooMed MRCVS

Trinity Vet Centre, Maidstone, Kent, [mnr@vetsurgeon.org](mailto:mnr@vetsurgeon.org)

In Trinity Vet Centre we use a Class 4 therapy laser, K-Laser, for wound and soft tissue rehabilitation and pain management. This poster shows some clinical benefits across a wide range of species in exotic vet practice. K-Laser is a Class IV therapeutic laser designed to deliver specific red and near-infrared wavelengths of laser light to induce a photochemical reaction on biological tissue that absorbs its wavelengths. Physiological effects include increased micro-circulation and oxygenation, reduced inflammation and pain, and enhanced tissue healing. In human and companion animal medicine its indications include acute and chronic wound healing, accelerated tissue rehabilitation and the management of osteoarthritis. In exotic animal medicine it has far reaching uses and benefits affecting the pathogenesis of some common conditions in exotics. In this article we look at its effect on avian wing tip oedema and pododermatitis, wound healing in exothermic species, and management of osteoarthritic conditions in small mammals.

The K-Laser has many applications in exotic animal medicine. Some of these are directly translated from its uses in companion animals but many conditions affecting exotics specifically lend themselves to laser therapy given the mode of action and delivery of the photons of light energy.