

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Hendra Enquiry
Date: Monday, 7 March 2016 1:51:41 PM

Research Director
Agriculture and Environment committee
Parliament House
Brisbane Qld

Dear Sir,

I am writing to submit my thoughts and experiences with the Hendra Vaccine and the coerced sale of it by the veterinary profession.

The first issue that needs to be investigated is the reasons why and how all infections of Hendra Virus took place and it is my belief that all of the available evidence on all of the infections as shown by independent reports is that negligence of those involved played a major part and in fact caused all infections. The fact that all members of the veterinary profession and staff infected, failed to wear appropriate PPE and the fact that these people have been educated to the correct protocols and then failed to follow them compounds their negligence. Vic Rail and his helper who were infected doing internal procedures were negligent but had ignorance as an excuse but again had they used PPE the evidence is that they probably would have survived.

Then one needs to address the fact that no other person in history has ever recorded an infection no farrier no horse dental technician no rider no groom/strapper no transport operator in fact no person, add to this the fact that horse to horse infection has not yet been achieved I strongly disagree with the comments being promoted by the veterinary profession about the infectious ability of this virus and evidence shows that to this point in time no person has ever been infected when having casual contact or doing normal horse activities and that it has only occurred when negligence was involved with internal procedures on known sick horses in fact approximately 100 people who had casual contact these animals and some very close casual contact were not infected so on the evidence available no person in history has ever been infected unless acting negligently with infected animals and doing internal procedures with out the use of PPE.

The above justifies the next part of my submission and that is I personally have used the Hendra vaccine and have had a mare with birth complications in my opinion caused by this vaccine the foal was born deformed (with its stomach on the outside of its body) it died as a consequence (conservative value \$20000) plus four other horses with leg and hoof problems all of which never existed until after vaccination on top of that we have had major skin problems that never existed prior to vaccination all issues have now subsided some two years after I ceased vaccination and after many hours of treatment and corrective shoeing to sustain these animals. All of these problems were reported to APVMA who cited them as possibly due to the vaccine given the issues have not returned since vaccination it is my conclusion that they were probably caused by the vaccine.

I would ask that some issues in regard to the history of this disease be taken into account, not the least of which is considering that on average only three horses a year contract this virus out of a horse population of approx 1.2 million horses and the evidence that no person wearing appropriate PPE has ever been infected shows up the rarity of this virus and it possible infection when considering seven infections in 22 years all due to negligent activity and it is now seven years since the last infection illustrates that with due care when dealing with a sick horse the risk is

extremely small and if those dealing with sick animals take due care there should never be another infection. Another relevant issue is that no horse has ever been infected or detected with infection at any horse related event in the history of this country contemplate the multimillions of opportunities for that possibility and it has not happened ????. It would appear on available evidence that all that is needed is responsibility and accountability, if one has a horse showing symptoms in the rare possibility that it could happen and to follow the known protective protocols.

The next point is the instruction label on the vaccine states that it prevents the symptoms of the virus it does not say it prevents infection but it does state that it cannot be guaranteed that a vaccinated horse will not be infected and may still shed the virus so on the basis of that information a vaccinated horse may be more dangerous than a unvaccinated considering the vaccine can mask the symptoms and create a false sense of security.

Upon consideration of the above which is all factual and has been gleaned from Government reports such as The Qld Ombudsmans report, The Redlands report (how were there not charges laid for negligence) DPI Qld & NSW reports on Hendra incidents Qld Biosecurity Qld Health and Qld WH&S I would seriously question the fear mongering and deceptive comments of the Veterinary professionals and their advertising material into their attempt to coerce the use of this product (Hendra Vaccine). The other issue is the serious conflict of interest that occurs as they are promoting and selling this product for profit.

This issue has the ability to decimate the horse industry in Queensland all based on the rhetoric and promotion of this professional group who are it would appear motivated by self interest and on evidence created by their own negligence. I would urge the Director to give this issue serious and due consideration as a concerned horse owner and supporter of the horse industry I don't wish to leave Qld to continue to be involved but with the mentality of some in the veterinary profession it may be the only alternative unless the Government can find the solution. Hoping that this submission conveys my reasons to question the coerced use of this vaccine adequately.

Your sincerely
Brian Kennedy



Kilcoy Qld 4515

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Fw: Hendra enquiry submission
Date: Wednesday, 30 March 2016 6:17:52 PM

From: [REDACTED]
Sent: Tuesday, March 15, 2016 6:23 AM
To: aec@parliament.qld.gov.au
Subject: Hendra enquiry

Agriculture and Environment committee
Parliament House
Brisbane Qld

I wish to submit the below comments for your perusal.

I have been involved with horses for some forty years and have a sound knowledge of the animals and the industry.

I used the Hendra vaccine because I felt morally responsible but after I vaccinated some thirteen horses and they started to have health problems I decided to have an in depth look at the need for this vaccine. Might I say that the reactions which my horses suffered were varied but all involved a deterioration in the health of five out of thirteen of those animals some showed no reactions whatsoever and of the five affected two are now dead, two I have spent two years treating for skin hoof and legs problems and the fifth took about a year to return to previous condition after leg and hoof issues. I have reported these issues to APVMA the relevant body and have had correspondence stating that the reactions were possibly adverse reaction to the vaccine. Might I say I have spent considerable time and money dealing with this and in the process I have had one of those horses a mare give birth to a foal which was born deformed with its stomach outside of its body and died as a consequence a foal that should have survived and been a valuable asset this matter was also reported to apvma.

My experience with this vaccine motivated me to research the history and the facts involved to educate myself in regard to any possible risk I or any one else may face while dealing with the horses. This research/investigation enlightened me to some very interesting facts, first and foremost was that no person has ever been infected by casual contact with horses and some of those were known infected horses, contemplate the number of horse to person contacts in the last two hundred years and not one infection recorded from Hendra virus that is a enlightening fact. Then when I looked into the infections I was surprised to find that all of the people who had been infected were doing intrusive procedures on infected horses unprotected according to the reports these people were doing autopsies, nasal lavages, catching urine in their bare hands, scoping a horse's nasal cavity full of blood and mucus without using Personal Protection Equipment and that the majority of these people were either educated professionals or staff who had been educated in the need and proper use of such equipment which leads me to believe that these individuals died or were infected by their own negligence even

the horse trainer Vic Rail and his worker probably would have survived if they had used PPE. We now have this group of professionals promoting and coercing the use of a vaccine on the basis of this information when it is stated on the label of that vaccine, it is possible that a vaccinated horse may still be infected and shed the virus. Their argument for the blanket use of this vaccine when one relates to the evidence of infection and their continued lack of the use of PPE as advertised almost daily by this profession is an expensive, deceptive and irresponsible given the fact that no person has ever been infected when using appropriate PPE with known infected animals and no vaccine is 100% guaranteed.

The next issue I would like to point to is the rarity of this virus and how difficult it is to contract while investigating this point I have discovered that there have been seven infections including four deaths in 22 years and in that time no farrier, no groom, no rider, no trainer, no child, no transport operator in fact no person has ever been infected whilst going about their daily activities with horses. The Government agencies have protocols that should be followed by this group of veterinary professionals and had they followed these protocols the number of people infected would probably be two and when you read what these two did it could not be regarded as normal horse activity and with the knowledge now available this should never occur again.

Just to put this all into perspective or should I say my perspective as there are only three horses a year on average infected out of a horse population of 1.2 million horses it is very rare. Then consider that there has not been a human infection in seven years and only four deaths in 22 years all could have been avoided with the use of PPE and when you look at the odds of the millions upon millions of horse to person contact each and every year and not one casual contact infection. There are seven vets a year on average committing suicide there are in excess of seven people a year being struck by lightning and thousands killed in car accidents. The comments and deceptive promotion of this vaccine based on fear and innuendo by the veterinary profession does not stand up under scrutiny nor is it backed up by the available evidence.

If there is an area within this issue that has not been properly dealt with it is in the area of infection transfer. Horse to horse infection has not yet been achieved, bat to horse has not yet been proven and my question is why has this not been researched because if the method of transfer was known we may be able to prevent that transfer by good management for the rare occasion that it happens. They are promoting the cost of millions of dollars on a vaccine for a disease that has been inadequately researched and might I say on reading CSIRO data into the vaccine research it would appear to be inadequate as well. It would appear that to use this vaccine as umbrella protection is fraught with danger when PPE should be the front line protection given it has proven to be 100% effective to this point in time and it will protect from all disease not just one.

Finally I would like to say that this activity by the veterinary Profession and their manipulation of the process by use of their position is having a marked affect on the overall horse industry and denies people the ability to feel comfortable and confident in their pursuits in their chosen field, we certainly need to be aware of this miniscule risk but the reality is that no horse or person has ever been infected and no horse has ever been detected as infected at any horse related event in the history of this country and the fear

mongering rhetoric of the veterinary profession to promote the sale of this vaccine is totally unwarranted on the available evidence these comments are deceitful and misleading there is in fact no evidence to support their stance in anything I could find. My position on this whole issue is that it has been a concerted campaign by the producer of the vaccine and the veterinary profession to promote the sale of this product for profit and there is no evidence that leads me to believe that the risk is anything like they promote. Perhaps the place to find some answers is to re investigate the Redlands incident and the reports on all infection incidents to ascertain the truth of what has actually happened and then perhaps you will see this from my perspective. Thankyou for your time

Yours sincerely

Brian T Kennedy

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED] Kilcoy Qld 4515

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: Hendra enquiry
Date: Monday, 4 April 2016 7:35:40 AM

Agriculture enquiry committee
Parliament house
Brisbane Qld.

To the Chairman

As one of the people directly affected by this issue I would humbly ask if you could possible pose these questions to the veterinary professionals who on my reading of the transcripts, it would appear are only telling part of the story These are the
questions I would put to all vets who are promoting the Hendra vaccine:

Are you aware that no person has ever been infected from casual contact with a horse, and if you are aware how is it then that you believe horse owners families or anyone else are at risk given the casual infection incidence over past history is ZERO.

How do you justify the no vac no vet policies on the basis that all previous infections to your profession occurred because of negligence by your profession and is verified by the reports on the incidents of infection and supported by the ombudsman's report into this issue which demonstrates the lack of proper use of ppe throughout the profession. At what point in time do you take responsibility for your failings. Considering that the infection rate when wearing appropriate ppe is ZERO.

To those vets promoting the risk of infection at horse events please explain how a vaccine that has caused havoc in the horse industry by way of thousands of adverse reactions including numerous deaths can in anyway diminish the risk at these events when there has never been an infection to horse or person at any event in history, again evidence of infection ZERO.

Why is it that the only people ever infected are vets who took unnecessary risks and two lay people who lacked the knowledge that is now available, but the hundreds of thousands of people in the horse industry farriers,dental technicians ,riders, grooms, trainers, transport operators and so on and not one infection. If this vaccine and your coerced implementation of it is not about money and the incidence of infection is ZERO unless you are negligent please show us the risk you are promoting.

Finally could you explain why the only people promoting this vaccine are members of the veterinary profession and the drug co Zoetis (who produce the product) considering these are the only ones who can possibly profit from its use/sale. Keep in mind that no vaccine is 100% guaranteed, I would ask why you believe that we should continue to trust a profession who promotes a policy that creates so much suffering on such unsubstantial evidence.

I respectfully make this submission on behalf of all those affected members of the horse industry and their animals

Yours sincerely

Brian T Kennedy

[REDACTED]
[REDACTED] Kilcoy 4515
[REDACTED]