

22<sup>nd</sup> April, 2016

Submission No. 19c

To the Qld Government Parliamentary Inquiry  
Parliament House  
George Street  
BRISBANE QLD 4000

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Qld 4670

Email: [aec@parliament.qld.gov.au](mailto:aec@parliament.qld.gov.au)

To the Honorary Members of Qld State Parliament,

I am forthwith lodging my submission into the Hendra virus (HeV) EquiVacc vaccine and its use by veterinary surgeons in Queensland, including the actions of some Veterinarians within the industry that are continuously vaccinating against the APVMA label and if the horse owner has concerns, the label clearly states “seek advice of their Veterinarian”. Just how does the horse owner access the correct Veterinarian advise from? When their own Veterinarian is vaccinating their horse against label in so many instances and have enforce a “no vaccinate, no treat Hendra policy”?

Included in my submission, are examples of Vets crossing the line and vaccinating against the Equivac HeV vaccine label and it appears that Zoetis is encouraging this behavior to a large extent by providing inducements to the Veterinarian to vaccinate with more then one Zoetis Equivac product at a time. Veterinarians have also been seen to be demanding a horse owner vaccinate their sick horse, prior to an emergency Vet consult will take place, failing to explain that no full immunity to the horse will be received until the second priming dose has been administered and also that a vaccinated horse may also shed the virus, as per the APVMA label supplied in my submission (APPENDIX)

Veterinarians are also forgetting to mention that APVMA has found and issued warnings that some horses may experience more and more severe reactions to each booster over time, many Veterinarians are stating that only minimal reactions have been observed and are ignoring the horses presenting symptoms after vaccinations are taking place that they could be an adverse reaction.

I ask the Inquiry to investigate these claims supplied forthwith and to demand those representatives from the AVA and Zoetis with a ‘please explain’ notice.

Yours truly

Heidie Grimson

## APPENDIX:

The APVMA clearly states:

# Safety, health and side effects

## Safety considerations

Before granting registration of the product the APVMA was satisfied that the vaccine—used in accordance with the approved instructions—would:

- not be an undue hazard to the safety of people exposed to it during its handling or people using anything containing its residues; and
- not be likely to have an effect that is harmful to human beings; and
- not be likely to have an unintended effect that is harmful to animals, plants or things or to the environment.

The instructions included in the approved label for the product include specific directions for use, advice to people administering the vaccine, as well as precautions and health warnings.

### Animal safety warnings

The approved instructions include specific safety warnings such as:

- the product should not be used in sick or immunocompromised horses

the potential for interactions when administered with other vaccines and veterinary medicines is not known.

Horse owners considering having the vaccine administered to a horse in any of these circumstances should seek the advice of their veterinarian.

## Effectiveness of the vaccine

Before granting registration of the product the APVMA was satisfied that the product—when used as instructed—would be effective as an aid in the prevention of disease cause by Hendra virus. That is when it is administered with a booster dose every 6 months after the primary vaccination course.

The potential for a vaccinated horse to pass on the Hendra virus cannot be ruled out. As a precaution, it is recommended people take the same steps to protect vaccinated horses from exposure to infection—and to prevent humans being infected by horses—as are recommended for unvaccinated horses. Personal protective equipment should be worn whenever infection is suspected even in vaccinated horses.

Detailed practical advice on the appropriate precautions to take is available from:

- [Queensland Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry](#) <sup>16</sup> and
- [NSW Department of primary Industries](#) <sup>17</sup>

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- [Queensland Government Department of Agriculture, Fisheries and Forestry](#) <sup>24</sup> and
- [NSW Department of primary Industries](#) <sup>25</sup>

# Potential side effects of the Hendra virus vaccine

The approved label lists potential side effects, including:

- swelling and soreness at the site of vaccination
- increase in body temperature
- lethargy
- loss of appetite
- muscle stiffness and swelling in the joints (oedema)
- skin rashes (urticaria)
- colic.

**colic - yet Vets are refusing to treat horses that present with colic as they state it is a Hendra condition**

These symptoms are generally short-lived and are typical of many vaccines. As with all vaccines, side effect symptoms may vary in severity and on some occasions may require veterinary intervention.

Although some side effects may be expected, it is important that people who observe an adverse effect report them to the veterinarian who administered the vaccine, the registration holder, or the APVMA.

**Veterinarians are demanding even horses with Immunocompromised systems be vaccinated or they will refuse to treat the horse if it becomes even sicker!**

## The vaccine booster

It is not unusual for booster shots for any vaccine to result in more severe reactions. When first exposed to an antigen (such as that present in a vaccine), cells in the body's immune system produce antibodies—this is how the vaccine works.

In some individuals a particular type of antibody is produced in excess, which produces a marked response by immune cells the next time the body is exposed to the same antigen—such as a booster vaccine. In these individuals, the normal course of vaccination may lead to an exaggerated immune response to vaccination. This is known as a hypersensitivity reaction and each subsequent exposure can result in a similar or more severe reaction in the individual.

It is important that people who observe adverse events report them to the veterinarian who administered the vaccine, the registration holder, or the APVMA.

URL: <https://apvma.gov.au/node/12881>

Content last updated: 4 August 2015

Content last reviewed: 4 August 2015



# 14887

31-Mar-2015 04-Aug-2015

PER14887

The potential for vaccinated horses to shed virus if exposed to and infected with the Hendra virus cannot be ruled out.

It is recommended that good hygiene practices are observed when horses are being handled.

**Personal Protective Equipment (PPE) should be worn whenever HeV is suspected even in vaccinated horses as no vaccine can provide a guaranteed protection.**

#### **Compatibility & Interactions**

The compatibility of Equivac HeV Hendra virus vaccine with other vaccines and veterinary chemical products has not been studied.

#### **Side Effects**

Transient swelling may develop at the site of vaccination in some horses but should resolve within one week without treatment.

In some horses transient post-vaccination reactions including injection site reaction, pain, increase in body temperature, lethargy, inappetence, and muscle stiffness have also been observed. Additional reported clinical signs have included urticaria, sweating, mild peripheral oedema and mild transient colic. Clinical signs may vary in severity and occasionally may require veterinary intervention.

Systemic allergic reactions such as anaphylaxis may require parenteral treatment with adrenaline, corticosteroid and antihistamine as appropriate and should be followed by appropriate supportive therapy.

## Client Discussion

It is widely known that clients rely heavily on the recommendation of their Vet. This means you have a vital role to play in increasing uptake of Equivac HeV, through your discussions and recommendations to clients.

Use these conversation starters to discuss vaccination with your clients:

- "We strongly recommend vaccination to all of our clients. Can we vaccinate your horses today?"
- "Vaccination is the safest thing for your family and your horses. That's why we recommend it to all our clients"
- "The consequences of a Hendra virus outbreak are so severe, it isn't worth taking the risk. Vaccination is a low cost for the security it provides."
- "Vaccinating against Hendra virus isn't just about your horse, it's about you and your family, and helping them stay safe against this deadly virus"
- "While we're seeing your horse today can we vaccinate against Hendra virus to safeguard you and your horse?"



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## Australian Veterinary Association Position Statement

**The AVA strongly recommends that all horses in Australia are vaccinated against Hendra virus to protect them and to protect humans from its potentially fatal outcome.**

**In line with good biosecurity principles, the AVA encourages Hendra vaccination as a pre-condition for all horses entering pleasure or performance events where close contact with humans is likely. Horse events include racing, agricultural shows, horse rides, horse sports and breeding studs.**

**For occupational health and safety reasons, veterinarians may choose to make vaccination against Hendra virus (along with using personal protective equipment and infection control practices) a pre-requisite for visiting or treating horses when the vaccine becomes available commercially.**



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## Vaccine Safety Update

Analysis of the first 25,500 doses administered to horses have shown a low adverse reaction rate, with no serious or life threatening reactions reported.

- From ~25,500 doses → 56 reports → 74 horses involved
- Classification system:
  - A = Probable = 49 horses
  - B = Possible = 9 horses
  - O = Unclassifiable = 1 horse
  - O1 = Inconclusive = 4 horses
  - N = Unlikely = 11 horses
- A + B = 58/25,500 = 0.22% adverse event rate to date

Approximately half of these reactions are site reactions that require little or no treatment. There have not been any serious or life threatening reactions.



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## Managing Equine Preventative Care

- **Ensure you keep vaccine in an esky in your car.**
  - Every call is an opportunity to discuss the risk of Hendra virus. Carrying enough vaccine in your car for the visits you're making that day allows you to vaccinate during these calls, rather than needing to make a separate visit.
- **Utilise the resources Zoetis have available for you**
  - Send a letter to your clients about the risk of Hendra.
  - Run an information night to educate your clients regarding Hendra.
  - Run a vaccination day to eliminate your travel costs and save time.
  - Run a newsletter article on the dangers of Hendra
  - Send a press release to any local newspapers.
  - All of these documents are available from [vetsaustralia.com.au](http://vetsaustralia.com.au)



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# GET YOUR SECOND DOSE OF HENDRA VACCINE FREE\*

**VACCINATE  
BEFORE IT'S TOO LATE**

\*CONSULTATION FEE AND/OR  
TRAVEL COSTS WILL APPLY

## UNTIL JULY 31 OR WHILE STOCKS LAST

With over 70% of Hendra virus outbreaks occurring between May and August, now is the ideal time to vaccinate your horses against Hendra virus.

And thanks to Zoetis and your participating vet, it has never been more affordable. Until July 31, Zoetis will provide your second dose of Equivac HeV free of charge\*, significantly reducing the cost to vaccinate your horses.

**CONTACT YOUR VET FOR FULL DETAILS OR VISIT [WWW.HEALTH4HORSES.COM.AU](http://WWW.HEALTH4HORSES.COM.AU).**

Equivac HeV is not a registered chemical product and an application for registration has been made. Only available through participating vets.



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### **MYTH: The Hendra vaccine isn't safe in pregnant mares**

It is important to note that the Hendra vaccine can be administered to pregnant mares under the advice of your veterinarian, but specific studies on pregnant mares are currently underway. This means that the decision to give the vaccine to a pregnant mare should be discussed with your veterinarian prior to administration.

There is no reason to believe the vaccine is unsafe and similar vaccines such as the vaccines for strangles, tetanus, herpes virus and rotavirus, are approved to be given to pregnant mares quite deliberately to provide protection to mares and their newborn foals.

### **MYTH: This is a 'trial' vaccine**

The vaccine is currently administered under a Minor Use Permit. This is not a trial. The Minor Use Permit was granted because of the urgent need for this product to protect humans and horses in the face of continuing outbreaks. The Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority (APVMA) is satisfied with all of the safety and efficacy data that was provided prior to vaccine release and has no doubts concerning the safety of the vaccine.

### **MYTH: The vaccine isn't safe**

Data from the first 22,000 doses of the Hendra vaccine administered to horses resulted in only 55 reports from horse owners and veterinarians, with 53 horses categorised as having had a side-effect. The majority of these reports involved injection site swellings, which is not uncommon with any injection in a horse. The adverse event rate to date is approximately 0.24%, placing it in-line with the expected adverse event rate for most vaccines. None of the side-effects reported were serious, and all resolved.

### **MYTH: Some horses can't be vaccinated e.g. geldings**

Any horse over the age of four months is eligible for vaccination. As discussed above, there are some specific situations where a discussion with your veterinarian is desirable prior to vaccination.

### **MYTH: The vaccine doesn't work**

The Hendra virus vaccine has been rigorously tested with results demonstrating that vaccinated horses can withstand a dose of one million times the amount of virus likely to result from natural exposure from an infected bat. This vaccine is considered highly effective in the prevention of Hendra virus infection of a horse.

### **MYTH: Why do horses have to be micro-chipped?**

It is essential that veterinarians, event organisers and government authorities know which horses are vaccinated and which aren't, especially in the face of an outbreak. The only reliable, practical and cost-effective means of identification is via a microchip.

### **MYTH: My horse could catch Hendra virus from the vaccine**

The vaccine contains no live virus, which is what would be required to cause an infection from vaccination. The vaccine's active ingredient is a tiny protein that is found on the surface of the virus, and this protein has been produced in a laboratory without having to harvest it directly from virus. Consequently there is zero risk of Hendra infection resulting from vaccination.

### **MYTH: The vaccine contains harmful additives**

Vaccines of this type contain 'adjuvants' which assist the immune system to respond, and are essential to generate a protective immune response in the horse. The adjuvant used in the Hendra virus vaccine is of a type used in other animal vaccines over many years and is considered an excellent immune-stimulator.

It is also important that vaccines maintain a certain 'shelf-life' and consequently preservatives are added in tiny amounts to assist with this. The preservative used in this vaccine is common to many other animal vaccines and will not harm your horse.

### **MYTH: I've cut down all my trees so I won't get Hendra**

It has been shown in recent outbreaks that not having trees or flying fox roosts on your property does not completely eliminate the risk of exposure. Vaccination is the most effective means available to aid in the prevention of infection.

### **MYTH: My horse needs a special 'Hendra' microchip**

If a horse already has a readable microchip then there is no need to administer another chip.

### **MYTH: Only black flying foxes have been associated with disease**

There is no evidence that potential outbreaks are limited to the habitats of specific species of flying fox.

### **MYTH: We would be better off to cull the bats**



## SOME OF THE MARKETING CAMPAIGNS FROM VETERINARIANS:

THE FOLLOWING INFORMATION HAS BEEN PROVIDED BY EQUINE VETERINARIANS AUSTRALIA  
A Special Interest Group of the Australian Veterinary Association Ltd – March 1, 2013.

### *What is the Equivac® HeV Vaccine?*

Equivac® HeV vaccine is a 1ml vaccine that aids in the protection of HeV disease in healthy horses from 4 months of age. Horses will initially be vaccinated with 2 doses, 21 days apart, with the onset of immunity occurring 21 days after the second dose. The vaccine contains a non-infectious protein component of the virus.

### *How does the vaccine work?*

The vaccine stimulates the production of protective antibodies. If the horse is subsequently exposed to HeV, the antibodies will bind the viral particles preventing them from establishing active infection in the horse. The viral particles bound to the antibody are then further eliminated by the immune system.

### *How effective is the vaccine?*

Initial trials have shown complete protection when vaccinated horses were exposed to a lethal dose of HeV. All vaccinated horses were protected from disease and there was no evidence that infection had been established or that virus was shed from these horses. The trials show that the vaccine will be extremely effective in the prevention of HeV disease in horses and in the prevention of HeV transmission from horse to horse and from horse to human.

### *How does HeV vaccination of horses protect human life?*

The only recognised pathway of transmission of HeV to people is from contact with infected horses. Vaccination of horses will therefore provide protection to people by interrupting HeV transmission from flying foxes to horses, and then to humans. However, widespread uptake of vaccine would be necessary for Equivac® HeV to have a significant impact on human health.

### *Is the vaccine safe to use?*

Yes. Safety studies have been conducted in horses greater than 4 months of age, and these studies showed no significant adverse reactions associated with the use of Equivac® HeV. Minor side effects that have been reported include small injection site reactions (lumps) that are not painful and that persist for only a few days. Field data from the first 8000 horses vaccinated indicates that only 0.2% of doses resulted in minor side effects following administration.

### *Can the vaccine cause HeV infection?*

No. Equivac® HeV is not a live vaccine and it cannot cause clinical disease. Live virus is not used at any stage in the production of the vaccine. Equivac® HeV is known as a "subunit" vaccine. Other "subunit" vaccines used in horses include Equivac® Strangles vaccines.

### *Can other vaccines be given at the same time?*

There has been no safety work done looking at concurrent use of Equivac® HeV and Equivac® Tetanus/Strangles. This will be looked at in the future. It is however not expected that concurrent use of different vaccines would reduce the effectiveness of each vaccine component. The concurrent use of different vaccines may increase the chance of vaccine reactions such as minor swelling, pain and fever.

### *Can I vaccinate my foal?*

Yes. Foals can be vaccinated from 4 months of age with 2 doses 21 days apart. Thoroughbred foals to be registered with the ASB must only be microchipped with an ASB assigned microchip.

### *Is the vaccine safe to use in pregnant broodmares?*

There is no safety data available supporting the use of Equivac® HeV in pregnant mares, and consequently there are no associated label recommendations. The safety trials will take some time to complete and the data is not expected until 2014. For this reason, owners and veterinarians may choose to not vaccinate breeding stock. Many Veterinarians and scientists do not expect that this vaccine will be problematic for use in breeding animals, as other subunit vaccines such as Equivac® Strangles vaccines are safely used in pregnant mares. However, the safety study data will be necessary to verify this prior to a label recommendation in breeding animals. The decision to vaccinate pregnant mares at this early stage should be made on the balance of risk of HeV infection against the risk of possible vaccine related side effects on a pregnancy. Pregnant mares are currently being vaccinated in high-risk areas of Queensland and any adverse reactions on pregnancy will be notified. This anecdotal information will be provided to Veterinarians. Some owners and Veterinarians may choose to vaccinate brood mares immediately after foaling.





The practical consequences, for us as we go forward will be:

From the 1<sup>st</sup> March 2015 we will use the following guidelines for seeing unvaccinated horses:

1. Routine examinations on **well, unvaccinated horses**  
Eg: dental treatments, injuries, ultrasounds, radiology etc, **will NOT** be performed unless Hendra virus vaccination is performed at or prior to the routine examination or treatment.
2. **Sick, unvaccinated horses** will be charged a higher examination fee that is in line with the costs of personal protective equipment and the additional time required in "suiting up" and decontaminating. Owners may also be charged for the costs of an exclusion test (packaging and shipping of the sample to Brisbane). This will be between \$220 - \$250.  
Keep in mind **Sick, unvaccinated horses** will have limited treatment which is deemed necessary for the horses welfare until there is a negative exclusion test.



And [redacted] states that for Tetanus (Equivac Tetanus – another Zoetis product) packet ‘says boost every 5 years but it is recommended by the manufacturer (Zoetis) to be given yearly’ – this is one of many examples where Veterinarians are thumbing their noses at APVMA labels and do either as they wish or are encouraged to by Zoetis as they publicly state on this vaccination program recommendation, just who do Australian horse owners trust to have the best interest of their horses health first?

Vaccination	Disease	Vaccine	Foals	Adult Horses
First	Strangles, Tetanus	Equivac 2in1	12 weeks of age	Any age
Second	Strangles	Equivac 2in1 or Equivac S	14 weeks of age (2 weeks later)	2 weeks later
Third	Strangles, Tetanus	Equivac 2in1	16 weeks of age (2 weeks later)	2 weeks later
First Yearly Booster	Strangles, Tetanus	Equivac 2in1	16 months of age (12 months later)	12 months later
Ongoing Protection	Strangles	Equivac 2in1 or Equivac S	Every 6 months	
	Tetanus	Equivac 2in1 or Equivac T	Every 12 months	
Pregnant Mares	Strangles, Tetanus	Equivac 2in1	No less than 2 weeks before foaling	
Tetanus T on the packet says to boost every 5 years but it is recommended by the manufacturer to be given yearly				
First	Hendra	Equivac Hev	4 months	Any age
Second	Hendra	Equivac Hev	3 - 6 weeks later	
Booster	Hendra	Equivac Hev	Every 6 months (at this stage)	
First	Equine Herpes	Duvaxyn EHV - 1,4	5 months (3mths if high risk)	Any age
Second	Equine Herpes	Duvaxyn EHV - 1,4	4-6 weeks later	
Booster	Equine Herpes	Duvaxyn EHV - 1,4	Every 6 months	
Pregnant Mares	For pregnant mares administer at 5, 7 and 9 months of pregnancy			
First	Salmonella	Equivac EST	4 months	Any age
Second	Salmonella	Equivac EST	8 weeks later	
Booster	Salmonella	Equivac EST	Annually	
Pregnant	For pregnant mares previously primed, administer a booster 6 weeks before foaling			
Foals that receive their second dose at less than 12 months of age need a 3rd dose 6 months later				

quini HOSPITAL October 6, 2014 · Like Page

\*\*\*Product of the week\*\*\*

Equivac HeV is the only vaccination to help protect you and your horse from the deadly Hendra virus. Horses initially need 2 doses of the vaccine then boosters every 6 months. The HeV vaccine can only be administered by a vet. The details of the horse are then recorded on the national Hendra vaccination registry, so their vaccination status can be verified if needed. The vaccine is safe in horses from 4 months of age and there is a low adverse reaction rate of 0.22% and falling.

If you have already vaccinated your horse, and due for the 6 monthly booster between 25th May and 25 November 2014, you qualify for a free dose of Equivac 2 in 1! Please contact us at the hospital or at your next visit to take advantage of this promotion.

## Preventative Care at an Affordable Price

We would like to offer you a new and simple way to improve your horses quality of life with the [REDACTED] Wellness Program. It is a cost effective way to provide ongoing preventative care for your horse.

When you enrol in the Wellness Program, you will receive two veterinary visits per year. These will include:

- An extended physical examination (including cardiac, ECG and ophthalmic exams)
- Dental examination and treatment

-Vaccination boosters for Tetanus, Strangles and Hendra

-Two faecal egg counts per year and one worming drench by stomach tube

-Height and girth of your horse will be measured (off clinic) to give you a weight estimate, or weighed on scales (in clinic)

-Management advice such as nutrition, worming

-Sheath cleaning for geldings

-Full report of the examination including pho-

tographs and recommendations

We also have a program tailored to meet the needs of the geriatric patient. Older horses in particular are prone to health issues such as decrease in body condition, increased susceptibility to parasites, infections, lameness and arthritis, skin conditions, and endocrine disorders such as cushing's disease.

Packages can also be bought as a "one off" without enrolling in the program. Please contact us for more information on [REDACTED]



5 hrs

**HENDRA ALERT!!** For those who thought hendra had disappeared, think again! Over the weekend an unvaccinated horse has died from hendra virus on NSW north coast after being sick for a few days.

The only way to truly protect yourself and your horse from this devastating fatal virus is through vaccination. For more information on vaccinating your horse please don't hesitate to contact GVH on [REDACTED]



## WILL ISIS VETERINARY SERVICES TREAT YOUR HORSE?

Dear valued Clients,

Hendra virus has dealt a terrible blow to Australian horse owners. There has been a lot of good and bad publicity regarding the Hendra virus and the vaccine available, and these issues are still a very contentious subject with some people. Unfortunately, however, facts are facts and industry is now forcing pressure on Vets to have a Hendra policy.

[REDACTED] feels a strong obligation to reduce pain and suffering of any sick horse, and we will not abandon our patients at their time of need. However, we also have an obligation to protect our staff and horse owners, and with this in mind we have developed our Hendra Virus protocol.

Hendra virus is a fatal disease of horses and humans. Since its discovery in 1994, 71 horses have had confirmed Hendra virus and an additional 20 horses highly suspicious but testing not performed. This second figure is suspected to be a gross under-estimate. Seven people have contracted the virus, unfortunately 4 of which have died; the surviving suffering from a range of ailments. All but one of the human cases have been Veterinarians or their staff. Locally we have had 2 cases of confirmed Hendra virus (Hervey Bay in July 2011 and Bundaberg in March 2014). Approximately half of confirmed Hendra have been in areas with "no known flying fox activity".

Hendra virus has an incubation period (the time from the horse contracting the virus to showing clinical signs) which is quite variable, ranging from 5 to 16 days. During this time the horse is able to shed the virus. Which means potentially a "healthy" horse can spread the disease to other horses and people. The virus causes inflammation of blood vessels, and as such the clinical signs are variable. Described signs include being vaguely unwell, colic, respiratory signs, neurological signs etc. The temperature of affected horses can be normal, low or high.

We will not refuse to attend a sick horse, however we cannot undertake invasive procedures on unvaccinated horses if showing any clinical signs which may be consistent with Hendra virus. If your horse presents with any of these signs, a Hendra exclusion test must be performed before any invasive procedures such as nasogastric tubing, fluid therapy, rectal exams etc are performed. The exclusion test can take 2-5 days, depending on time of sample collection and time to get the sample to the lab in Brisbane. The cost to horse owners for this exclusion testing is nil, however there will be a Veterinary call-out fee to attend, courier fee, travel and after-hours if applicable. At this stage the government pays for the testing.

This delay for exclusion results may have negative consequences for a horse that is deteriorating quickly. We will not refuse to treat a horse, however, the treatment may only involve pain relief and assessment until Hendra has been excluded. We are unable to leave therapies with horse owners, as we would then be putting them at risk of potential Hendra exposure.

Hendra vaccination is considered to be safe and effective. Over 250,000 horses have now been vaccinated and the rate of complications is very low – usually a swelling at the injection site, slightly raised temperature or mild lethargy for 24 hours. Despite what people "hear", there have been no deaths or serious injury reported after Hendra virus vaccination. Also, there are no known repercussions for reproductive animals. The current cost of a Hendra vaccination is \$90 per dose.

[REDACTED] has an obligation to protect its patients, clients and staff from this disease. We strongly recommend all horses get vaccinated against this deadly disease.

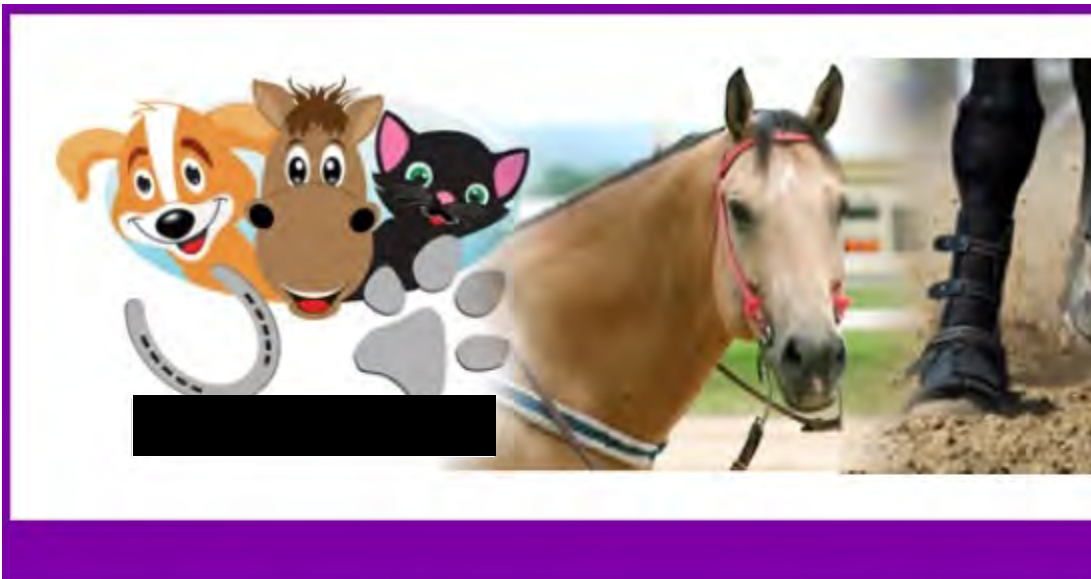
Please feel free to call us or alternatively Zoetis Tech Support on 1800 814 883 for further information.

Kind regards

[REDACTED]

[REDACTED]





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## NEWSFLASH

In view of another devastating Hendra Case at Beenleigh we are now going to offer horse owners an annual Healthy Horse Package. This will include a Performance Dental Float, Basic Health Check, Hendra vaccine, Tetanus Strangles Vaccine and a Worm Paste. All this for only \$250 in clinic or \$280 + travel at your place. We implore you for your family's safety & ours to please vaccinate your horses!

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Hendra Vaccine November 2012

HALLELUJA IT'S HERE  
HENDRA VACCINE HAS ARRIVED  
THE CHOICE IS YOURS!

We are very fortunate to live in a country where everything is about CHOICE  
Each individual is able to choose what they want to do  
The first choice many people make is whether or not they are going to own a horse  
Once that decision is made, it then opens up a never ending chain of decisions and choice  
Individuals make those depending on their circumstances and requirements

This is a decision about LIFE or DEATH  
IT IS THAT SIMPLE

YOU can CHOOSE whether to protect yourself and others  
YOU can CHOOSE whether to protect your horse  
YOU can CHOOSE whether to protect your business and livelihood

Yes, there are many issues revolving around the vaccine. It has been released somewhat prematurely.

Before all the proper trials and requirements for registration and availability on the open market. This has been done for one reason  
TO GIVE PEOPLE THE OPPORTUNITY TO PROTECT THEMSELVES, OTHER PEOPLE, HORSES, AND THEIR BUSINESS'S AGAINST THE DEVASTATING EFFECTS OF HENDRA DISEAS E.

There is one thing we do know for certain, the vaccine is very effective. There are many things we don't know about the vaccine at this stage. SO WHAT

The other thing we know for certain is that Hendra Disease is here, has been here for centuries, and the reality is that it is never going to go away.

While ever there is an opportunity for flying foxes and horses to interact, outbreaks of Hendra disease are going to occur.

YOU CAN NOW CHOOSE TO BREAK THAT CYCLE

DISCUSSION:

The Vaccine: The vaccine release has been fast tracked because the perception was that people should have the right to access protection against this deadly disease. Under normal circumstances, a new product or vaccine will take up to 5 - 7 years of testing and trials before there is sufficient data to prove to the Australian Registering authority that the product is safe and effective and consumers can have confidence in the use of the product.

In this case, the public have been demanding a vaccine. Enough trials have been done to indicate firstly that the product does in fact produce a very high level of protection. Secondly, the work to date suggests that the vaccine has not been associated with any significant side effects. In this case, the registration authorities have seen fit to release a vaccine under special licensing conditions to give people the opportunity to create protection. DO IT NOW

There are many, many, things that are not known.

The most important unknown is the length of time that the vaccine is effective. This is completely unknown and it is a very vital piece of information because we have to know how often a booster has to be given to maintain adequate protection. The level of protection produced so far suggests there is a reasonable expectation that the first course will be good for 12 months, however it may only be 6 months. So What! These first results should be available only next year.

You have chosen to own a horse

Each and every horse owner has a responsibility and a duty of care to take whatever steps are possible to protect themselves, their families, their horse, and their livelihood if that is in any way related to the horse industry

Not to do so is irresponsible!

Please call to discuss and arrange a vaccination