

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Inquiry into Equivac HeV  
**Date:** Monday, 29 February 2016 12:12:31 PM

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To Whom it may Concern,

The release of the HeV in 2012 was seemingly a godsend, until my mini reacted. 7 days after the vaccine we found he couldn't walk, couldn't lift his head, was lethargic, febrile and anorexic to name a few symptoms. He only had received one shot. He was seen by a vet, bloods taken and confirmed hyperkalcaemia with some other derangements of which I cannot recall.

Since this reaction my other horses did not receive the 6 month booster, nor the 12 month, nor any other booster or injection since.

My mini never recovered, and after seeing him get worse we laid him to rest.

Since the implementation of the vaccine, I have seen great vets reduced to being called all manner of names, seen many close their doors or even give up a field they loved so greatly. My own vet adopted a "no vaccine no attend" policy which saddened me greatly, and have since stopped using his service.

He is a very great, experienced vet however due to WH&S laws, bi-laws and other stupidity introduced from higher officials he has had to introduce this idiotic decree.

The HeV release has limited me to what I can compete in, such as cannot attend Royals or EA events (not a member, but would not be able to go since I have not vaccinated).

I live in a medium risk area, approx 20km from a "Hendra confirmed" case, however we see no bats.

We practice effective biosecurity! We have cleared many trees, have water away from trees and feed our horses in the stables morning and night. The risk of them obtaining Hendra is so minuscule.

If the HeV is mandated, I will not be able to receive vet services! The Gatton Uni is 10 minutes from me, they will not see my horse as he is not hendra vacc, he would be accepted only if referred by another vet, of which I will not be able to obtain due to his no HeV status.

Colic was one symptom as a Hendra symptom, this has since been excluded as a "sign" however vets are still taking such as a symptom and refusing to attend, even so far as dental, suturing and other such non invasive techniques.

The whole Hendra Vaccine implementation, common sense has been lost. Gone are the reliable thinkers, scientific research based best practice and care for the unwell. Instead we have unrest among the horse industry, the anti vs pro, and its not even anti vax people

rather we wish to have a vaccine that works as a vaccine should with a rate better than 54% efficacy. Whereby, the vaccine does limited harm and more protection as such a vaccine should.

If the vaccine is so safe the government should assist in the redevelopment and rolling out, or the studies into titre level testing, OR more research into when the vaccine really actually needs to be given.

Original research as I understand was initial shot, second at 21 days, followed by a 6-12 month booster. There was never any further research into how long a booster will last? Tetanus boosters last more than 5 years, contrary to what vets mention and say yearly, this is not the case.

A good vaccine is effective, with low adverse reactions, promotes easy immunisation, economic and have cheap production therefore cheaper to buy and sell.

The HeV will cause a huge negative outcome to my horses, and riding. If it becomes mandatory I will have to give up events and just trail ride.

The horse industry will crumple in QLD, better to have individual assessments done on properties and pass/fail. OR make the decision up to the horse owners.

Thank you for your time

Regards

Tanya Dearden

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P.S - to note, there is yet to be a passive exposure from horse to human in general day to day activities such as feeding, grooming, cleaning, shovelling manure or any such interaction.

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