

From: Sarah Allen [REDACTED]
Subject: Submission to Hendra inquiry
Date: 26 April 2016 at 7:37:46 PM AEST
To: aec@parliament.qld.gov.au

To the committee, My history is horses, My life is horses, My business all my life has been horses, My family only do horses, I have ridden and competed horses all my life, my family have represented Australia in Showjumping many times ,BUT , the threat of having to vaccinate mine, and anyones horses for hendra every six months makes me reach the conclusion that I will never want to own, ride, or compete horses for the rest of my life if I have to jeopardise horses health with OVER VACCINATING for hendra. I live in Qld, I am totally confident that I can reduce the risk of catching hendra for myself, family and my horses with a few safety measures , but I cannot reduce the risk of my horses having a bigger reaction to the unnecessary 6 monthly over vaccination that is required. I feel that no Australian should be put into a position where we have to decide to risk our horses health with the unsafe vaccination, or not vaccinate and risk our horses health with the refusal of a vet to treat.

“Vaccination in the single most effective way of reducing the risk of hendra virus infection in horses” It is used by DPI, WH&S, and AVA/EVA. Where is the research that supports this statement? Research on ferrets and horses in lab testing is not research from natural environment . What has happened to the horses that were used in the lab for testing? Have these horses been subject to 6 monthly vaccination since, and where is the results to show that continual vaccinations had no effect on their performance and general health? I am not a scientist or a highly educated person, but I do understand my research that shows hendra is extremely difficult to catch unless there is invasive contact. One of my horses had a reaction after the 4th vaccination, I do not dare subject her to the reaction from the 5th one. But soon I will have to live with the fear of her getting ill or hurt in some normal horse accident or illness, and being unable to receive vet attention. That STRESS on my life is beyond description, I ask that this debate is resolved with the health of horses as the prime reason to stop the over vaccinating decision this Australian Government has supported. Along with the destruction of our horses health, the cost to horse owners is unnecessary and too difficult to manage for a lot.

Please use all the information submitted in this inquiry with logic and common sense.

Regards

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