

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)
Subject: HENDRA VACCINE
Date: Thursday, 3 March 2016 8:52:11 PM

I am writing to advise of my decision NOT to vaccinate my horses with the Hendra vaccine.

I have a high level competition mare as well as a young 2 year old. When my vet offered me the vaccine a few years ago I declined wanting to wait and find out a bit more about this new vaccine. I am glad I did! I missed out on a couple of shows I would have attended including the Brisbane Royal which I was going to compete at to promote the Irish Sport Horse Breed. I was also prepared to miss out on a few dressage events should that happen as I was just not comfortable giving the vaccine without more information. My vet was and still is quite happy to treat my horses even though they are not vaccinated and I also ride regularly on his property and he has never asked me or pushed me into having the vaccine given to my horses (yes this is very rare I know for an equine vet!)..I do know that there have been horses he has given the vaccine to who have had reactions. I am aware of quite a few people in my local area alone who have not only had their horses have reactions to the vaccine but who have had up to 2 years off work due to the the reactions and in a few instances even death.

I am so glad I have made the decision not to vaccinate. There is just not enough evidence to show that it is safe yet and also any proof that it is necessary to have repeated boosters.

I am aware of the risks of Hendra to horses and humans and still would not have my horses vaccinated.

Yours faithfully

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