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Scarborough

Q 4020

7th April 2016

Submission to the Queensland Parliamentary Hendra Vaccine Inquiry

I am submitting a document in support of Hendra Virus Vaccination of horses

In my capacity as a mentor to younger Vets I have seen first-hand the anguish caused by a positive diagnosis of Hendra in a sick horse.

In the case that I am familiar with, the vet concerned behaved responsibly by donning full PPE in Central Queensland in mid-summer, despite the discomfort that resulted.

When informed of the positive Hendra Virus diagnosis of the horse, the Vet suffered significant distress until testing proved that the disease had not been contracted.

As a result of this experience I support the right of any Vet to refuse to treat sick unvaccinated horses without recrimination. Their physical and mental health must be a priority.

In my capacity as an employee of a practice that treats horses (Manly Road Veterinary Hospital), I feel reassured that unvaccinated horses are not allowed on the premises and am of the opinion that this decision by my employers makes this a safe work place

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Dee Bilbrough (BVSc)

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