

15 April 2016

The Agriculture and Environment Committee Hendra Vaccine Inquiry
C/- Mr Rob Hansen
Parliament House
Brisbane
Queensland 4000
Phone: 07 3553 6660

By email: robert.hansen@parliament.qld.gov.au

Dear Mr Hansen,

RE: Veterinarian Submission to Hendra virus Vaccine Inquiry

My name is Dr Fraser Galloway, and I am a veterinarian who breeds and treats horses in the Pullenvale and Gatton areas. Queensland. I have been in veterinary practice for over 30 years. I wish to address the following Terms of Reference in the Qld Parliament's Hendra virus Vaccine Inquiry:

- The incidence and impact of adverse reactions by horses following vaccination and the reporting of adverse reactions and economic impacts of the Hendra vaccine.
- The development, trials and approval processes of the vaccine
- Who bears the risks of HeV infection and who incurs the costs and receives the benefits from each risk mitigation option.

I have given around 80 Hendra virus vaccinations. None of my horses have exhibited reactions and none of my clients have reported adverse reactions.

I believe the vaccine to be safe. I am aware of hearsay evidence of reactions in horses that have had repeated 6 monthly vaccinations. I am also aware of hearsay evidence that horses vaccinated every six months have been measured with very high antibody titres that may be well above what would be expected to provide protection. I am concerned that these possible reactions may be linked to over vaccination.

There may be parallels to the Canine Immune Mediated Haemolytic Anaemia experience where one scientific paper indicated the incidence of this disease is linked to over vaccination. Since I have changed from annual to every three yearly vaccinations this disease has seemed to disappear in my practice.

I am concerned that a six monthly HEV vaccination regimen is unusual and unpopular with the equine community and may probably be over vaccinating. In my opinion we need to get the science to decrease the frequency of vaccination to an annual, every three or five year protocol and then make vaccination mandatory.

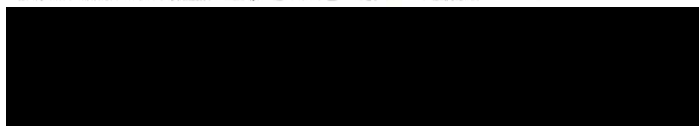
This vaccination in my opinion is essential to the welfare of all persons working with horses in Queensland. I will not treat a horse that has not been vaccinated.

Yours sincerely,

A black rectangular redaction box covering the signature of Fraser Galloway.

Fraser Galloway BVSC MBA MANCVS (Emerg & Crit Care)

Red Hill Veterinary Clinic  Red Hill 4059

A large black rectangular redaction box covering contact information, likely a phone number and email address.