

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

Dear Mr Hansen,

**RE: Veterinarian Submission to Hendra virus Vaccine Inquiry**

My name is Dr Andrew Morley, and I am a mixed practice veterinarian located at Moura, Queensland. I have been in veterinary practice for 38 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 done about 1100 Hendra vaccinations since it has been released with only 3 reported minor reactions, these being a small area of swelling at the vaccination site which resolved in a few days.

In my opinion the **vaccine is safe with minimal reactions** so the benefits far out way the risks.

Hendra disease is impossible to diagnose at the initial consultation so vaccinated horses are able to receive a more thorough investigation and treatment regime. The **Workplace Health and Safety** liability now lies with the veterinarian as well as the horse owner. As the Hendra Exclusion takes 2-3 days there is a long delay before the area is considered safe. We do treat non vaccinated horses but it is stressful and potentially dangerous for owners, employees, employers and our families.

**Liability** is now a major issue. An equestrian event that does not include a Hendra vaccination policy puts the organisers and the attending veterinarians at risk from prosecution.

**If the horses are vaccinated everyone is safe**, the owners, the families, the spectators and bystanders and the veterinarians.

Yours sincerely,

  
Andrew A Morley BVSc MVS

MOURA VETERINARY CLINIC  


MOURA QLD 4718  
