

**From:** [REDACTED]  
**To:** [Agriculture and Environment Committee](#)  
**Subject:** Submission - Hendra Vaccination  
**Date:** Friday, 22 April 2016 4:09:01 PM

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Good afternoon

I am submitting this email to let it be known that I am not a happy horse owner at the moment in regards to the "Hendra Vaccination" policy many vets are currently taking.

I am a horse owner of four horses and due to different reason I refuse to give my horses the Hendra Vaccination, so now every day I worry that if a vet is needed for one of my horses, will a vet attend and give the 'value of service' that they charge for and that I have been given in the past.

Up until recently vets were happy to come out and treat all horses, no matter what the diagnose would be. This has now changed since the "Hendra Vaccination" has come on board from Zoetis.

1. Adverse Reactions

Many horses have had reactions from being given this injection. They can range from mild to horrific. Owners then are faced with costly vet bills to obtain health within their horse again.

I will not subject my currently healthy horses to this vaccine and due to different reasons within their structure.

One horse is now a senior and even on the label, it suggests that horses with immune compromise and senior should not be vaccinated.

Two other horses have slight immune compromises and i will not take the chance of them becoming worse with this vaccine.

Plus another horse has the best personality and I will not take the chance of this changing as behaviour changes after the vaccine has become noticed.

Speaking to my farrier, he has also mentioned to me how quite a few of his clients are having issues with their horses and he has now seen lots of hoof issues within the horses that he treats. All the horses that have now had laminitis showing up, either mild or severe have all had the Hendra Vaccination.

From this information, and information from a trusted holistic vet and holistic practitioner that I use and have spoken to in the past and asked for advice in regards to Hendra and Hendra Vaccination, I have been advised to NOT vaccinate.

2. Vet no vac no treat policy

I find this appalling and do have to ask why this has not now become an animal welfare issue when vets refuse to attend to a sick or injured horse. Or worse, they ask for money upfront, from customers that they have been on their books for many years. They are treating their customers like thieves. I find it very discarding, to be treated in this manner.

The Hendra disease has been around for 20 plus years and until Zoetis came on board, vets were very happy to come out and treat. Why the sudden change in behaviour all because a large drug company has now come into the picture?

### 3. Cost Prohibitive

I will pay for treatment for my animals and I feel that as an owner I do the best I can for all my animals in my care. Though I do not like being taken advantage of by Drug companies and the vets that they appear to have on a string like a puppet.

From different FB groups, friends and conversations I have had the pricing is dramatic.

If this vaccine is need so much for our horses, like the strangles and tetanus vaccination, why can the Hendra vaccine also now not be able to be bought from the produce store and given to the horse by the owner if they so wish.

I thank you for your time with me being able to submit a submission with my concerns to the Hendra Vaccination and trust that the right ruling will be made in the end to suit the people who are happy to vaccinate and the people who wish for their horses not be vaccinated and still be entitled to decent treatment from a vet when it is required.

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