

From: [REDACTED]
To: [Robert Hansen](#)
Subject: Submission to the Hendra Virus Vaccine Inquiry
Date: Thursday, 21 April 2016 10:49:21 PM

Dear Mr Hansen,

I have been a horse owner for over 30 years and have always endeavoured to keep my horses healthy and in the best conditions possible. As such, my horses have always had their vaccinations, worming, dental and farrier requirements kept up-to-date. I did as much research as possible and attended our local Hendra forums when the Hendra vaccine was introduced. All my horses have been vaccinated with the Hendra vaccine since 2013. I have two horses who do not seem to show adverse affects of the vaccine and one who is now unable to be ridden due to chronic and debilitating lameness which presented once she was vaccinated with the Hendra vaccine. The onset and progression of this lameness has been rapid and I am compelled to think is as a result of the vaccine or components within it. As you can imagine, this has caused much distress.

I would like to make the following points:

1. Hendra is a dangerous virus, however, it is my view that undue pressure has been put on horse owners to vaccinate, often at great expense.
2. The dose may be too high to be given as a six monthly injection and that this may have resulted in diminishing the health of our horses and their ability to perform long-term.
3. Further research is required into the various components of the Hendra vaccine and their individual actions on our horses as well as the effects as a whole.
4. Horse owners have not been properly informed of the risks to their animals from potentially over-vaccinating with the Hendra vaccine.
5. Vets seem to have 'closed ranks', thus finding balanced and truthful information regarding the risks associated with the Hendra vaccine, beyond localised swelling and mild malaise, is difficult.
6. If a vaccine is required in order to allow for veterinarian attention, then the costs should be subsidised by the Government.

I hope these comments help your inquiry.

Sincerely,
Nichole Thompson.

[REDACTED]
Miami QLD 4220