

21 April 2016

The Agriculture and Environment Committee Hendra Vaccine Inquiry  
C/- Mr Rob Hansen

Dear Mr Hansen,

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

My name is Dr Megan Devlin, and I am a predominately small animal veterinarian, who does a proportion of equine work, located at Westvets Animal Hospital in Marburg, Queensland. I have been in veterinary practice for 11 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 vaccinated approximately 30 horses with HeV to date and have received no reports of adverse reactions from clients of these horses. To this date I have not had personal experience, or heard from a veterinary colleague of a serious adverse reaction found to be the result of administration of the HeV vaccine. However it is important that an outlet is maintained for suspect adverse reactions to be reported and investigated as necessary to continue ongoing data collection on safety of the HeV vaccine.

I feel the availability of the HeV vaccine is vital to allow horse owners to protect their horses and themselves as well as offering safety and peace of mind to workers in any related industries, including our profession. I believe the vaccine to be efficacious and benefit of administration to horses to outweigh potential risk based on current data.

Yours sincerely,

Megan Devlin

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