

Hendra Virus -Fact Sheets

The **Hendra** Virus is extremely rare and never occurred at an Equestrian event. Travelling to and from competition and falls from horses rate as higher risks than **Hendra** virus. Facts sheets on the **Hendra** virus are available below.

[Hendra Virus- Information for Horse Owners, handlers, competitors and events organisers](#)

[Hendra Virus Infection](#)

Hendra Virus Vaccination

Vaccination for **Hendra** Virus is not mandatory in Queensland. There are still many vets who will treat unvaccinated horses. At the recent IQ State Championships, IQ secured a vet who would treat horses that were not vaccinated for **Hendra** Virus. Many vets have a similar policy, whereby risk assessments are carried out to determine the probability of a horse that is showing symptoms that may be **Hendra**-like having contracted the virus.

IQ will ensure that the vet who is secured for the Nationals will treat all interstate horses that are not **Hendra** vaccinated. Recent advice from Queensland vets also indicates that there should be no issues with treatment of horses travelling from interstate.

Biosecurity

Since the Equine Influenza impacted the industry in 2007, Equestrian Queensland (EQ) have been working closely with Biosecurity Queensland on tracking horse movement records, raising awareness on good biosecurity practice and developing and implementing biosecurity plans for event organisers. EQ biosecurity plans and communications are regarded as industry best practice and have been adopted by other industry partners such as PCAQ and implemented at major events such as the 2015 National Interschool Championships in Sydney. EQ also contract Biosecurity Managers to attend major EQ events to support the application of good biosecurity practices by everyone at the event.

Further biosecurity information, including the EQ biosecurity plan template, can be found on the EQ website: <http://www.qld.equestrian.org.au/content/biosecurity>

Stabling

There are 3 stable blocks at Toowoomba. 2 of these are relatively close together, with the 3rd being the other side of the indoor arena. We propose that Qld horses are stabled in the stable block that is away from the other two blocks.

Other events in Qld

The Pony Club Nationals are also being held at Toowoomba prior to the Interschool Nationals. IQ are working very closely with Pony Club Qld to ensure both Championship events run smoothly and to the benefit of competitors. Both organisations will be working together to plan their schedules to ensure horses have maximum rest time between the events to ensure welfare of the horse.