

## **Equine influenza vaccination**

From 1 January 2005 onwards, influenza vaccination for all horses competing in FEI competitions requires a vaccination within six months + 21 days of the competition.

1. All horses intending to participate in FEI competition must have at least received an initial primary course of two vaccinations, given between 21 and 92 days apart. Thereafter, a third dose (referred to as the first booster) must be given within 6 months + 21 days after the date of administration of the second primary dose, with at least annual boosters given subsequently (i.e. within 365 days of the last dose).
2. If the horse is scheduled to take part in an FEI competition, the last booster must have been given within 6 calendar months + 21 days of arrival at the FEI event. (The 21-day window has been provided to enable vaccination requirements to fit in with the competition schedule).
3. No vaccination shall be given within 7 days of the day of arrival at the FEI event.
4. All horses that were certified as correctly vaccinated under the previous FEI equine influenza vaccination rule prior to 1st January 2005, do not need to start a primary course again provided that they have complied with the previous rule of primary course and annual re-vaccinations and the new rule of a booster vaccination within 6 calendar months + 21 days of the day of arrival at the FEI event.

### **Vaccines, Administration and Certification**

- All proprietary equine influenza vaccines are acceptable to the FEI irrespective of the route of administration.
- All vaccines must be administered by a Veterinarian.
- The vaccination should be administered according to the manufacturer's instructions (i.e. intramuscular injection or intranasal).
- The details of the vaccine, serial/batch number, the date and route of administration must be recorded in the FEI passport.
- Where vaccination details are to be entered into new FEI passports/recognition cards or duplicates, if the vaccination history of the horse is very long, the Veterinarian who completes the descriptive page of the passport/recognition card may use a specific statement to certify that the vaccinations have been administered in accordance with FEI regulations (for the extract of the wording see Veterinary Regulations, Annex XIV.I.11).

## Sanctions

As from 1 January 2006 a system of fines is being imposed by the Appeal Committee/Ground Jury for failure to comply with 6-month booster vaccination prior to event arrival.

- Less than one week after the 3-week vaccination window:  
**CHF 200**
- Less than two weeks after the 3-week vaccination window:  
**CHF 300**
- Less than four weeks after the 3-week vaccination window:  
**CHF 400**
- More than four weeks after the 3-week vaccination window:  
**CHF 500, and cancellation of the horse's participation in the event.**

- If there is no evidence of any current vaccination in passport: a maximum penalty of CHF 500. The horse should not be allowed to compete. It must be put in isolation and sent away from the event as soon as possible.
- Provided the current passport contains a statement that the vaccination history of the horse has been checked and found to be correct (for exact wording see VR, Annex XIV.I.11), the lack of information available on the primary vaccination course need not lead to a penalty, and a repeat primary course is not required.  
For horses starting vaccinations after 1<sup>st</sup> January 2005, when the first booster has not been given (6 months +/- 21 days after the second injection of the primary course), the horse should receive a new primary course followed by a booster vaccination 6 months (+/- 21 days) later. A warning should be written down in the passport. The horse may compete providing that it complies with the rules in every other way.
- Any infringements of vaccination dates should be noted on the vaccination page in the passport so that it is not reported again at a future event. Please write in CAPITAL letters; remember that others will be dependent on the information that you have written in the passport. If possible, add a copy of the vaccination page with the infringement to your Vet Report to the FEI.