

Park Veterinary Centre



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ADVICE ON VACCINATIONS

Equine Influenza Vaccine recommendations

The course should be commenced from 3 months of age onwards and should only be given to horses in good health.

The **PRIMARY COURSE** is two injections given 21-92 days apart (preferably 4-6 weeks apart). In addition any horse born on or after January 1st 1980 should receive a third injection (interim booster) given no less than 150 days and no more than 214 days after the second injection of the primary course (preferably 6 months after primary course).

Thereafter, horses should receive annual boosters (not more than 1 year apart). If there is a lapse greater than 12 months a primary course should be recommenced.

Post-vaccinal recommendations

No strenuous exercise should be carried out for 2 days (e.g. walking and 'light' trotting only) and preferably no strenuous competitive exercise for 14 days after the injection has been given, although this is at the owners' discretion.

Those horses which have a tendency to a 'stable allergy cough' (COPD) should be turned out into a fresh air environment for seven days after the injection. If this is impossible a course of 'Ventipulmin' should be administered by mouth for five days after the injection.

Equine Tetanus Vaccine recommendations

The course should be commenced from 3 months of age onwards and should only be given to horses in good health. It can be given separately or combined with an influenza vaccine.

The 'primary course' should incorporate two injections given 4-6 weeks apart. The first booster should be given one year after the primary course. Thereafter 'boosters' can be given annually or (preferable) biennially. If there is a lapse of more than 3 years a primary course should be recommenced.

Post-vaccinal recommendations

No strenuous exercise should be carried out for 24 hours.

In conclusion we recommend the following approach to equine vaccination:-

If owners wish they can have an Influenza Vaccination twice yearly (every 6 months).

If competing under FEI rules a booster must take place every 6 months (plus or minus 21 days)

	3 month old foal	1. 1 st Flu/Tet
21-92 days.	4-6 weeks later	2. 2 nd Flu/Tet
150-214 days	6 months later	3. 3 rd Flu/Tet
Not more than	12 months later	4. Flu booster
Not more than	12 months later	5. Flu/Tet booster

Thereafter Influenza yearly and Tetanus every second year.

Certificates (Vaccine Record)

There are two basic types of vaccination record (certificate) issued at the second injection of the primary course.

1. **Mark-up certificate**

This includes a detailed description of the horse (e.g. age, breed and detailed markings). This certificate is required for all competitive horses and those horses that may require admission to any showground/racecourse in the United Kingdom i.e. for dressage events or Pony club Camp etc. There is an additional charge for the completion of this certificate. Nowadays all horses should possess a 'DEFRA' passport which identifies the horse and that has a section for recording vaccinations.

2. **Vaccination card**

This record simply describes the name, age, breed, colour and sex of the horse. This will suffice for those that are used for hunting and general hacking or are retired from competitive exercise.