



# Park Veterinary Centre

256 Cassiobury Drive. Watford. Herts. WD17 3PA

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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** consists of three inoculations. The first two injections are given 21-92 days apart (preferably 4-6 weeks apart). The third injection (interim booster) is 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.

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).

### 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.
- We strongly recommend that you always keep the tetanus vaccination up to date even if your horse is not competing, elderly or retired. Tetanus is a very serious disease and almost always fatal.

*In summary we recommend the following approach to equine vaccination:*

	3 month old foal	1. 1 <sup>st</sup> Flu/Tet
21-92 days	4-6 weeks later	2. 2 <sup>nd</sup> Flu/Tet
150-214 days	6 months later	3. 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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.

## **Post-vaccinal recommendations**

The horse should not be exercised on the day of the inoculation after this has been administered. No strenuous exercise should be carried out the next day (e.g. walking and 'light' trotting only).

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.

A horse should not attend competitions before 7 days after the vaccination. Entry to the competition grounds could be refused by the organisers when checking vaccination records.

## **Equine Herpes Virus (EHV 1, 4)**

Equine Herpes Virus is associated with respiratory disease, abortions, perinatal mortality and occasionally neurological disorders.

It is recommended to vaccinate pregnant mares against Equine Herpes Virus, which could cause abortion in late pregnancy. Mares should be inoculated at 5, 7 and 9 months of pregnancy.

Vaccination against the respiratory form of Herpes Virus consists of a primary course of two inoculations (4 -6 weeks apart) from 5 months of age. Boosters should be administered every 6 months.



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