Author:
Katie Flynn, BVMS
California Department of Food and Agriculture

Coauthors:
Ellen Mary Wilson, DVM
California Department of Food and Agriculture

Josie Traub-Dargatz, DVM, MS, DACVIM
Colorado State University, Animal Population Health Institute
USDA APHIS VS, Centers for Epidemiology and Animal Health

John Madigan, DVM
University of California Davis, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital
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AUTHOR CONTACT INFORMATION

Dr. Katie Flynn
California Department of Food and Agriculture
Equine Medication Monitoring Program
1220 N Street
Sacramento, CA 95814
kflynn@cdfa.ca.gov
PURPOSE

The purpose of this toolkit is to assist equine event management and industry stakeholders in identifying potential disease risks at an event venue and in developing a biosecurity and infectious disease control plan to protect the health of the competition/exhibition horses and the equine population. Each event and venue is unique; therefore, the toolkit provides guidance for the assessment and development of event-specific plans that address the specific identified disease risks of the event and venue.
BIOSECURITY TOOLKIT FOR EQUINE EVENTS

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**PART 1: BASIC BIOSECURITY FOR EQUINE EVENT**

Biosecurity is a set of preventive measures designed to reduce the risks for introduction and transmission of an infectious disease agent. Infectious disease pathogens may be brought to and spread at an event premises by horses, people, domestic animals other than horses, vehicles, equipment, insects, ticks, birds, wildlife including rodents, feed, waste and water. Implementation of an equine event biosecurity plan will minimize or prevent the movement of diseases and pests on and off the event premises. Development and implementation of an equine event biosecurity plan is an essential responsibility of the equine event manager that is critical to protecting the equine industry.

The objective of this biosecurity toolkit is to provide equine event managers with resources to recognize potential disease risks at the event venue and develop a biosecurity and infectious disease control plan to protect the health of the competition/exhibition horses and the equine population. Each event and venue is unique; therefore, the toolkit provides guidance for the assessment and development of event-specific plans that address the specific identified disease risks of the event and venue.
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Potential for the “Perfect Storm” at Equine Events

A disease “perfect storm” occurs when numerous disease risk factors and a viable disease pathogen successfully interact resulting in the introduction and successful spread of the infectious disease agent to a susceptible population. The threat of a “perfect storm” concerns many equine event organizers. In the world of equine events, a “perfect storm” situation could occur if susceptible, stressed horses at an event venue are exposed to a viable infectious disease agent, the conditions and environment at the event support disease transmission and the disease agent rapidly spreads throughout the population of animals on the premises. In May 2011, horses that attended the National Cutting Horse Association event in Ogden, UT were exposed to the neurologic form of Equine Herpesvirus-1. The resulting outbreak, which garnered national attention, serves as an example of a disease “perfect storm” situation that had a significant impact on the equine industry.

1. Entry and Movement of the Disease Agent: Some equine infectious disease agents are ubiquitous in the environment and may naturally be present on the event grounds. Other infectious disease agents may be brought onsite by apparently healthy “carrier” animals. A multitude of factors, including stress, may result in a carrier animal becoming sick while at an event. This diseased horse may shed the pathogen exposing susceptible horses. Depending on the infectious disease agent, some exposed horses may shed the infectious disease agent during an incubation period before showing clinical signs of disease. So a sick shedding horse and a clinically healthy horse incubating a disease may shed disease agent into the environment, potentially infecting other horses at the same event. At an event lasting several days, an infectious disease agent can potentially disseminate throughout the entire venue exposing a large population of horses. Exposed horses that are subsequently moved from the venue can potentially spread the disease to horses at the next site of destination.

2. Exposure of Stressed Susceptible Horse Population: Horses participating at events away from their home premises experience stress associated with travel, an unfamiliar environment and competition/exhibition. Stress affects the immune system lowering defenses against invading pathogens. If an invading infectious pathogen is one to which the stressed horse has not been previously exposed, the potential for infection with exposure increases.

3. Environmental Spread of Disease: Many environmental factors contribute to the spread of disease. Air temperature, wind and humidity can promote the survival and transmission of infectious disease agents. The stable environment at an equine event may significantly influence the spread of the infectious disease agent and the quality of the ventilation in the stabling area may directly facilitate pathogen spread. Many multi-day equine events have space limitations for stabling, so horses are often kept in close confinement. Such close confinement may promote the ability of a disease agent to spread.

4. Lack of Biosecurity: Properly implemented biosecurity measures may significantly decrease the risks for disease introduction and spread. Failure to implement, or to comply with, biosecurity measures may lead to an increased likelihood of on-site disease agent introduction and transmission.
Biosecurity Challenges at Equine Events

Equine events pose unique risks for disease introduction and spread. The frequency and number of animals and humans moving around a show grounds, the commingling of horses of unknown health status, the often close stabling of animals and the sometimes inadequate or non-existent isolation areas for sick animals, all increase challenges for disease control.

1. **Commingling Horses of Unknown Health Status:** Horses, often with an unknown health status, are moved from their home premises and travel to an equine event, where they commingle on one premises. Some owners may have vaccinated their horses to protect them against common infectious disease agents, while others have not. The horses may all appear healthy as they unload from the trailer on the event grounds, however, some may be incubating or shedding a disease agent. Unfortunately, without a requirement for complete health exams and diagnostic testing, the health status of all the horses arriving on the event grounds will remain a mystery.

2. **Stabling of Animals in Close Proximity:** Horses participating in multi-day equine events are often housed in close quarters in barns and stables for extended periods of time with limited access to paddocks or pastures. Some events, such as fairs and exhibitions, may house multiple types of animals under one roof. Close stabling increases the risk of circulating pathogens and disease transmission.

3. **Animal and Human Movement:** Typically, event officials, exhibitors, spectators and vendors move freely around the venue grounds, interacting with numerous other people, animals and objects. These unrestricted movements and interactions may inadvertently increase the risks for infectious pathogen introduction and spread during an event.

4. **Inadequate or Non-existent Isolation Areas:** Most equine event grounds and facility designs allow exhibitors easy, direct access to competition/exhibition areas. Stabling areas away from the main traffic routes of the event are limited and an area for adequate isolation of sick horses may not be immediately available when needed.
A Biosecurity Plan for Equine Events

Development of an equine event biosecurity plan is an important step in protecting the health of all horses on the event premises. An assessment of biosecurity risks for each venue is necessary and an event-specific biosecurity plan should be developed to address each of the disease risks identified. An event-specific biosecurity plan should address the specific disease risks for the particular venue site and horse population. Successful implementation of the biosecurity plan relies on event staff, participants and spectators understanding and complying with the policies and procedures of the plan. Ideally, the event biosecurity plan should be incorporated in the rules and regulations of the event, communicated to all individuals before the event and prominently displayed with signage at the event. The plan should include monitoring during the event to ensure compliance with biosecurity policies and procedures. The American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) provides guidelines to equine veterinarians on biosecurity and infectious disease control at equine events. Event managers are encouraged to consult a veterinarian to assist in the biosecurity assessment process and plan development.

The below photos illustrate various ways an infectious disease agent can be introduced and spread at an equine event venue. When evaluating the event venue, consider the horse, trailers, tack and equipment, visitors, pets, bicycles and golf carts, feed and bedding delivery systems, tractors and farrier or other vendor vehicles as biosecurity risks and determine what steps can be taken to control the risks.

Equine Event Biosecurity Assessment
Equine Event Biosecurity Assessment

Initially, conduct a biosecurity assessment of the equine event venue and evaluate current management practices and identify potential disease risks. Assess the facility layout and construction, animal entry requirements, horse stabling, manure disposal, feed and hay storage, equipment handling, cleaning and disinfection procedures, potentials for horse-to-horse contact and horse-to-other species contact, isolation facilities for sick horses, vector and wildlife control, visitor access, traffic control and record keeping. Address the risks identified in the assessment in the biosecurity plan for the event. In the event of an animal disease outbreak, more stringent practices will be required to control disease spread.

1. **Facility Layout:** The biosecurity assessment of an equine event venue involves determining the risk of potential introduction and spread of disease for the particular venue layout and construct. The facility design may significantly influence the ability for disease pathogens to be brought to the premises and spread throughout the facilities and the animal populations. Complete elimination of disease risk is impossible; however, understanding and evaluating the risk factors for the venue site enables the event manager to implement appropriate management practices to reduce the risk of a potential infectious disease outbreak at their equine event.

A complete facility biosecurity assessment should include assessment of the stalls (number, size, construction and location), the availability of an isolation area (location, access and suitability), the feed and water areas (storage, sources, handling), the communal wash stalls (number, construction and location), exercise areas (size, location, level of possible horse-to-horse contact, equipment, sanitation) and the parking areas (location, separation and signage). An assessment template and pictorial assessment document are available in the Appendix A and C to assist in the assessment of the facility. (See Appendix A - Event Facility Biosecurity Risk Assessment Text Version and Appendix B for Equine Event Biosecurity Risk Assessment Pictorial Version and Appendix C for Equine Event Biosecurity Policy Risk Assessment)

2. **Animal Entry Requirements:** Animals entering the event venue are a potential source of infectious disease agents. Assess the event entry policies and procedures to determine the risk of disease agent introduction. Permit only healthy horses to enter the venue grounds and have enforceable rules for refusing entry of unhealthy horses to the event. Ideally, event staff should observe horses upon arrival to confirm animal identification, check health documents and observe horses for general signs of good health. Apply similar animal health standards for other species of animals entering the venue as well. As an added precaution, equine entry to the premises should be restricted to only those equines participating in the event.
3. **Horse Stabling:** Horses participating in multi-day equine events are often housed for extended periods of the day in barns or stables. Some events, such as fairs and exhibitions, may house multiple types of animals under one roof. Horse-to-horse contact, horse-to-human contact and horse-to-other animal contact are all potential routes for disease spread within the stables. When evaluating the biosecurity risk of the stabling area, assess the ability for horses to contact other horses, humans and other animals. Disease transmission risks increase with ability for direct or indirect contact. Additionally, evaluate the ventilation and air flow to ensure adequate air circulation, which aids in reducing potential exposure to respiratory disease pathogens or ammonia. For exposure to a respiratory pathogen, such as influenza, 100 horses stabled under one roof would all be be considered exposed, however, with an exposure to *Streptococcus equi* (strangles) more direct contact would be required to be considered exposed.

4. **Stall Sanitation:** Bacteria, viruses and parasites may remain viable in the manure, bedding and stall material. Therefore, evaluate stall cleaning protocols to ensure frequent and proper cleaning and disinfecting of stalls before and after each horse use to reduce potential exposure to disease agents. Direct observation of stall cleaning procedures will help determine the potential disease agent transmission risks associated with equipment handling, manure movement and disposal, and stall cleaning and disinfection protocols. (See Appendix D - Cleaning and Disinfection of a Vacated Stall)

5. **Manure, Soiled Bedding and Hay Disposal:** Infectious disease organisms may be shed and remain viable in horse manure. Handle manure as a risk material, especially when there is an infectious disease outbreak. Manure and soiled bedding present in foot or vehicle traffic routes, or in areas where fluids accumulate, pose a potential risk for the spread of infectious disease agents. Evaluate manure and waste disposal protocols to determine the location of manure piles in relation to vehicle and foot traffic, horse stabling areas, pastures and surface water. A wheelbarrow used for multiple barns can potentially spread disease to a larger geographic area compared to use of a designated wheelbarrow for a single barn or a single barn aisle. Never use a manure wheelbarrow to move feed or clean bedding. Evaluate the frequency and scheduling of manure removal from the collection point to ensure that procedures for prompt removal are in place. Frequent manure removal aids in eliminating parasites and insect breeding sites. Evaluate the manure disposal method to ensure that fresh manure is not spread on horse pastures. Thorough cleaning to remove organic material and disinfecting of stables and stabling areas reduce the level of pathogens.

6. **Water Source and Disposal:** A shared water source can result in risks for pathogen spread. Event venues which have a communal water trough or water from a shared water source have a higher risk of potential disease transmission. Events which require individuals to bring their own water buckets to fill from a
water faucet have a lower disease transmission risk. Water hoses, although helpful to exhibitors, have the potential to spread disease if inserted into multiple buckets or left lying on the ground between uses. Natural water sources, such as streams or ponds, also pose a significant disease risk due to an inability to control water quality or prevent contamination with disease agents. Contamination of natural water sources can be due to wildlife, fecal material, urine and environmental toxins, so use of natural water sources at events should be avoided. Proper water disposal is important for disease control since used water or water remaining in the buckets have the potential to carry respiratory pathogens and also serve as a breeding ground for mosquitoes. Evaluate water disposal methods to ensure that water buckets are emptied directly into a drain or onto manure piles to eliminate disease agent transmission risk.

7. **Feed and Hay Storage:** Evaluate the location, security and sanitation of feed and hay storage areas. Store feed in sealed containers to eliminate access by vermin, birds or other animals that have the potential to transmit disease. Hay should be free of dirt and mold, stored off of the ground and be kept covered. Feed storage bins, equipment and feed/water buckets should be routinely cleaned and disinfected. Feeding equipment should be stored separately from manure handling equipment.

8. **Horse-to-Horse Contact:** Infectious disease pathogens can spread easily from an infected horse to a susceptible horse by direct or indirect horse contact. Horses may shed infectious disease agents, such as bacteria, viruses or parasites, in body fluids, such as saliva, sweat, nasal discharge and feces. Evaluation of all potential for contacts is important for the development and implementation of biosecurity practices to minimize risk of disease spread. At equine events, horses may have direct contact with other horses in the stabling area, exercise area or in the exhibition arena. Horses may have indirect contact with other horses through contact with a surface, such as a fence or stall wall, contaminated with secretions from an infected horse. Horses tied closely along fences outside competition arenas may have direct contact with other horses or indirect contact with surfaces potentially contaminated by an infectious disease agent.

9. **Horse-to-Other Species Contact:** Horses may harbor infectious disease pathogens that may infect other livestock species. Some of these pathogens may be merely carried by the horse but not cause disease in the horse. Dogs, which are often brought to equine events, may also be a potential mechanism of disease spread at the equine event. Evaluation of all potential horse-to-other species contacts is important for development and implementation of biosecurity practices that can minimize risk of disease spread by this route. If protocols are put in place to restrict other animal contact with horses, evaluate them for compliance and enforcement.
10. **Traffic Control:** Vehicles entering the equine event venue may carry infectious disease pathogens on their tires or undercarriage. Evaluate vehicle traffic flow to determine if vehicles should be prohibited from the horse traffic areas. Also evaluate the adequacy of signage for designated vehicle traffic routes and parking areas for exhibitors, haulers, and visitors.

11. **Record Keeping:** Accurate records of event participants and horse arrivals and departures are necessary when evaluating disease exposure risk of the population. Current and accurate records of horses at the event and valid exhibitor contact information are essential to an investigation and response to a disease outbreak at an equine event. A map of the event venue, indicating locations of event activities, stables, fence lines, traffic flow, water sources and parking areas, should be part of all disease prevention plans and are needed in disease incident investigations. Evaluate event records, tracking documents (ability to track animal movement while on the premises and once they have left the premises) and maps of the event facility to ensure that they will contain pertinent information to compliment the biosecurity and infectious disease control plans. (See Appendix E - Record of Attendance at Equine Events)

Biosecurity assessment of these important areas will reveal potential risk factors for the introduction or spread of an infectious disease agent. The biosecurity and infectious disease control plans for the event should then be tailored to address the identified risk factors for the venue to the best extent possible.
Recommendations for an Equine Event Biosecurity Plan

Disease risks are inherent when animals of varying health status commingle. Complete elimination of all disease risks at an equine event is highly unlikely, so event managers must determine the acceptable level of disease risk for their event and develop an event biosecurity plan with policies and procedures to attain the needed level of biosecurity. Working with veterinarians and stakeholders, event management should determine which risks warrant implementation of mitigation measures.

An understanding of disease transmission is an asset to the event manager in the assessment of disease risk and prioritization of needed biosecurity measures. The greatest risk for contagious disease spread is direct horse-to-horse contact, specifically susceptible horse contact with a sick horse shedding infectious disease pathogens. Secondly, body fluids, such as sweat, material from the nostrils and manure/soiled bedding from a sick horse, may contain infectious disease agents that contaminate equipment, water buckets, tack, clothing, personnel and vehicles. Horses contacting contaminated surfaces may be exposed to the disease agent indirectly. Lastly, mosquitoes, ticks and flies, may be vectors for disease transmission. Vector transmission occurs when an insect or tick acquires a pathogen from one animal and transmits the pathogen to another animal. Insects or ticks can act as mechanical vectors which simply transfer the disease agent from one host animal to another. In some cases, insects or ticks act as biological vectors which involve modification of the agent by the insect or tick before transmission to a new host animal. Biosecurity measures should target these various methods of disease transmission to prevent the spread of disease.

In an area of no known ongoing disease threat, basic biosecurity is still necessary at the event. If, however, a disease threat is known to be in the geographic area of the event, it is advisable to institute additional biosecurity measures. The plan should also outline specific infectious disease control measures to enforce if a disease outbreak occurs at an equine event.

Following the venue disease risk assessment, equine event managers should consider the following biosecurity recommendations in the development of an equine event biosecurity plan:

1. **Health Requirements for Entry:** To protect competitors/exhibitors and horses on the premises, implement horse health entry requirements to reduce the risk of disease agent introduction to the venue. Horse health requirements for the event should be made in consultation with a local veterinarian with knowledge of the specific disease risks of the geographic area. When developing equine health entry requirements, consider the following policy options:

   a. **Only Healthy Horse Policy:** Restrict entry to the event grounds to healthy horses only. Prohibit entry of horses displaying obvious clinical signs of disease, such as copious nasal discharge, persistent frequent coughing or neurologic signs, such as ataxia or marked hind limb weakness (wobbly gait).

   b. **Event No Fever Policy:** Restrict entry to the event grounds to horses for which the owner/agent can provide documentation that the horse(s) has/have not displayed a temperature above 102°F for a designated time period, for example, the 48 hours immediately before arrival at the event. For events held in a geographic area of increased disease risk, the temperature monitoring time period
before arrival may be increased to seven (7) days with the added requirement for submission of temperature recording log.

c. Health Certificate Required for Entry Policy: Restrict entry to the event grounds to horses for which the owner/agent provides a certificate of veterinary inspection (health certificate) issued within seven (7) days of arrival at the event venue. A health certificate issued 72 hours before arrival is optimal. If a specific disease risk exists within the geographic area of the event, or a specific disease risk exists in the type of horses participating in the event, specify that additional health requirements be written statement on the health certificate by the issuing veterinarian attesting to the horse’s health and exposure status. For example, an additional requirement may include a statement that “The listed horse(s) has/have not been on a premises with a confirmed case of neurologic form of EHV-1 in the preceding twenty-one (21) days”. Additionally, your event may require that horses have specific vaccinations. For events with increased public exposure risks, a rabies vaccination requirement is prudent in order to protect animal and public health. Consult a local equine veterinarian for additional health certificate statement and vaccination recommendations based on disease risk of the geographic area or equine exhibitor demographic.

d. Horse Health Declaration Policy: Upon arrival, require that the owner/agent sign a health certification statement attesting that the listed horse(s) arriving at the venue has/have been healthy with no clinical signs of a contagious disease or body temperature(s) above 102°F for the preceding seven (7) days. (See Appendix F - Equine Event Participation Declaration) For all event health requirements and biosecurity measures, exhibitors and visitors should be made aware of the policies both prior to and during the event.

Healthy Horse Parameters

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parameter</th>
<th>Value</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Temperature</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resting Heart Rate</td>
<td>28-40 bpm</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Resting Respiratory Rate</td>
<td>10-14 bpm</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Animal Health Examination Notification

- All horses and other livestock that enter the grounds, whether entered in event or not, are subject to examination by event officials and/or State Animal Health Officials to determine whether such animals are, have been infected/exposed or are likely to be infected with an infectious or contagious disease.

- If after such examination, there is reason to believe that an animal’s health condition places other animals at risk, event officials may isolate such an animal, and other animals that may have been infected/exposed.

- All participants agree to fully cooperate with event officials and abide by their decisions/instructions. Failing to comply shall be grounds for immediate expulsion of the participant from the grounds and potential disciplinary action by organization, local/state or federal animal health officials.
2. **Report Suspicion of Sick Horses:** A horse entering the event grounds may be infected with an infectious disease agent or incubating a disease and not showing clinical signs of disease. The stress of travel and the stress of competition may result in a horse becoming clinically ill and displaying clinical signs of a disease during the equine event. Horses displaying clinical signs of disease pose a significant risk for disease spread to the entire population of horses. Consider an event policy requiring that any suspicion of illness in horses, including a temperature over 102°F, be immediately reported to a designated event official. All individuals on the premises should be made aware of this reporting requirement and be provided the name and telephone number of the designated event official to contact. The designated event official, who is to receive reports of illness, should have the authority and responsibility to immediately take necessary actions, such as enactment of an isolation plan to remove the suspect horse from the general population of horses at the event. The event manager should contact the event veterinarian for specific recommendations on how to manage a suspected sick horse.

3. **Isolation of Sick Horses:** Sick horses shedding an infectious disease agent can transmit an infectious disease agent directly and indirectly to susceptible horses on the event premises. The immediate isolation of a sick horse is essential for prevention of disease spread. Restrict isolation area access to the minimum number of individuals to provide needed care for the horse. Optimally, these people would not handle any other horses on the premises or have access to any other areas of the premises. If this level of control is not possible, then with veterinary consultation, institute a plan to use barrier precautions with appropriate use and disposal of personal protective equipment. The infectious disease control plan guidance documents provide additional information for isolation protocols and procedures. (See Part 2 Enhanced Biosecurity and Infectious Disease Control for Equine Events and Appendix S - UC Davis Center for Equine Health *How to Set Up a Disease Isolation Unit at a Farm or Show* and Appendix T – Equine Event Isolation Protocol Guidance)

4. **Temperature Monitoring of Horses:** A requirement for monitoring horse temperatures two (2) times a day and documenting temperature readings in a log is an easy, efficient, early disease detection tool for horses on the event premises. Temperatures taken immediately after transport or exercise may be temporarily elevated, so the initial temperature monitoring should be after the horse is settled in the stable. A horse rectal body temperature over 102°F should be immediately reported to a designated event official. Horses with rectal body temperatures between 101°F and 102°F should be monitored for other signs of disease and have their temperature retaken in one (1) hour. To ensure compliance with the horse temperature monitoring requirement, event staff should perform random audits of temperature monitoring logs. Consider requiring the posting of a Temperature Monitoring Log on the stall door which will allow an event official to easily perform checks on temperature recordings. (See Appendix G - Stall Temperature Monitoring Log)

5. **Monitoring of Horse Health:** Continuous health monitoring of all horses on the premises during the event is important. Designated event staff should perform a periodic walk-through of stables and event
grounds to directly observe horses for any clinical sign of disease. Any sign of disease should be reported to the designated event official with the authority to initiate immediate disease control measures, such as isolation.

6. **Equipment Handling:** Contamination of equipment by body fluids, such as sweat, material from the nostrils and manure/soiled bedding, can spread pathogens between horses at the event. Some pathogens may be spread on shared equipment, such as grooming supplies, wipe rags, water buckets, hoses and tack. Water hoses that make direct contact with contaminated surfaces on water buckets can transmit disease agents to the next bucket contacted. Thorough cleaning and disinfection of shared equipment between uses is recommended. To decrease environmental contamination, event management can clean and disinfect all areas which are touched by a person’s hands or horses, such as fences, wash racks, bathroom sinks, faucets and door handles on a daily basis. Event management should discourage participants from sharing equipment. Posting signage around the event grounds will serve as a reminder to participants.

References:

1. Dr. Roberta Dwyer video entitled, *How to Clean/Disinfect Horse Equipment*  

2. Dr. Roberta Dwyer video entitled, *How to Clean/Disinfect Water Buckets and Troughs* provides detailed steps to decrease disease risk associated with these items.  
   (See Appendix H - *Don’t Share Equipment* Signage and Appendix I - *Top Tips to Keeping Your Horse Healthy at Shows* Poster)

7. **Limit Horse-to-Horse Contact:** Pathogens may be directly transmitted between horses through nose-to-nose contact, therefore, elimination of potential areas for direct horse-to-horse contact in the stabling, wash rack and exhibition areas is recommended. To reduce environmental contamination, common areas should be washed and disinfected daily.

8. **Limit Indirect Horse Contact:** Surfaces contaminated by horse secretions may serve as a source of infectious pathogens. Indirect disease transmission is possible if secretions from an infected animal remain viable on an inanimate object and a susceptible animal makes contact with the object by licking, sniffing, or having to eat or drink from the object. Horses should not be permitted to be tied to fencing outside the arenas or stabling areas since the fencing can be contaminated by secretions from an infected horse.

9. **Restrict Dog Movement:** Dogs moving freely around horses present a danger to horses and riders and may carry infectious disease agents from one location to another on the premises,
potentially exposing horses to infectious disease agents. Prohibiting dogs on the event premises or restricting access to only dogs on leashes controlled by a person may improve safety and significantly reduce risks of disease transmission. If leashed dogs are permitted on the premises, they should be restricted from the stabling and feed storage areas. The event staff should have instructions for managing incidents of dogs found in restricted areas, off leash or freely roaming the premises.

10. **Limit Human-to-Horse Contact:** Human contact with multiple horses should be avoided. Show officials required to contact multiple horses should, at a minimum, be required to perform hand hygiene procedures (hand washing or use of an alcohol-based sanitizing product) between horse contacts or between classes. Where bit inspection is mandatory, the event official conducting the inspection should use and change disposable gloves or use hand sanitizer between each horse inspection. Horse show officials can ask the rider of groom to open the horse’s mouth to check bit or tattoo. Visitors can also pose a significant disease transmission risk due to the unknowns of their previous horse contacts. Visitors should not be permitted to contact horses without washing hands or using hand sanitizer immediately before and after the contact.

11. **Visitor Access Policy:** Human traffic at event venues can be a potential mechanism for spread of infectious disease agents. Restrictions or limitations on direct visitor access to animals can protect both human and animal health. Visitors should not be permitted to feed horses at the venue. If visitors are permitted to have direct contact with horses, event management should encourage hand-washing or use of hand sanitizers before and after direct contact with horses. (See Appendix J - Center for Disease Control(CDC) *Wash Hands When Leaving Animal Exhibits* Poster and Appendix K - *CDC Be Safe Around Animals* Poster)

12. **Vector Control Program:** Vector borne diseases are those in which transmission of a pathogen is by a vector, such as mosquitoes, ticks, fleas and flies. Vector transmission occurs when an insect acquires a pathogen from one animal and transmits the pathogen to another animal. Insects can act as a mechanical vector, which simply transfers the disease agent from one host animal to another. In some cases insects act as a biological vector, which involves modification of the agent by the insect or tick before transmission to a new host animal. Elimination of insects, or at least maintaining separation from the host, is critical to controlling vector borne diseases. Elimination of standing water, manure piles, tall weeds and brush are some methods for controlling insects and ticks. A multifaceted vector control program should be part of a biosecurity plan. For large events anticipating significant horse traffic and accumulation of manure, consult an insect control specialist for the most appropriate recommendations. During the event, recommend application of topical insect repellent for horses at the event. (See Appendix L - Routes of Disease Transmission and Control Measures for Equine Events)

13. **Wildlife Control Program:** Wildlife, birds and vermin may introduce and spread infectious disease agents. Hay and grain attract such pests and if contaminated may serve as a point of distribution of an
infectious disease agent. Human food attracts raccoons and other wildlife that may transmit disease, such as rabies, to animals or humans. For reducing disease transmission risks at the event premises consider incorporating a control plan for wildlife, insects, ticks, birds and rodents. Simple control measures, such as securing feed storage areas from unwanted wildlife, removing brush and wildlife habitats, instituting rodent control measures and eliminating areas of standing water, will contribute significantly to the reduction of disease transmission risks on the event premises. (See Appendix M - Wildlife, Bird and Rodent Control Measures)

14. Control and Track Horse Movement: It is important for event management to know what horses are on the event premises and where they are stabled. A comprehensive check-in and check-out procedure will provide the event manager the opportunity to obtain and/or validate essential information from owner/agents. Check-in information should include valid contact information of the party responsible for the horse(s). For each horse entering the premises, management should also obtain the address of the home premises or horse location prior to the event if other than the home premises and confirm the stabling location on the event premises. Information that should be collected from the owner/agents when moving horses from the event (check out information) should include: owner/agent contact information (including cell phone number and email address) and the intended destination for the horse(s) after leaving the event. This information becomes essential in an infectious disease outbreak at or following an event. This information allows for tracing and contacting owner/agents of potentially exposed horses.

15. Post Adequate Biosecurity Signage: Clearly communicate event biosecurity measures to event participants before and during the event. Place appropriate signage around the grounds to remind participants of expected compliance with biosecurity measures. Stable and barn signage should target biosecurity practices to prevent animal-to-animal contact, equipment sharing and feed contamination. Show ground signs should target parking and access areas, hand washing/sanitization stations and event policies for dogs. Wash stall signage should discourage horse-to-horse contact, sharing of equipment and direct horse contact with hoses. Adequate signage for traffic flow on designated routes to parking areas for exhibitors, vendors, haulers, and visitors is also essential to minimize risks of disease introduction.
16. **Medical Device Use and Disposal:** Needles and syringes used to administer medications at an event pose a safety hazard and potential disease transmission risk. Pathogens in blood can be transmitted from one horse to another through the use of contaminated needles. Event policies should include no needle reuse and mandatory disinfection of any blood contaminated equipment, such as dental and lip tattoo equipment. Appropriate medical waste disposal protocols should be implemented which includes proper needle disposal into sharps containers and medical waste removal of full sharps containers.

![Needles and syringes disposal](image)

Needles and syringes are a safety hazard; if contaminated with blood they have the potential to spread disease. All needles should be disposed of in a sharps container and all syringes should be placed securely in medical waste.

17. **Cleaning and Disinfection Protocols:** Event premises sanitation before, during and after an event is an important risk reduction element for disease transmission.

   - **Step 1:** Organic matter, such as manure and soiled bedding, should be thoroughly removed.
   - **Step 2:** Wash walls and floors with soap and rinse with water.
   - **Step 3:** Allow time to dry.
   - **Step 4:** Apply a disinfectant. Use disinfectants according to label directions following all safety precautions. Comply with all product label application instructions and or maximum efficacy to ensure adequate disinfectant contact time with surfaces.

   Sunlight can act as a natural disinfectant for many pathogens, so allow buckets, equipment and tack to dry in the sun after cleaning and disinfecting. All buckets, tack, equipment and vehicles should be appropriately cleaned and disinfected between animals and before being taken to the home premises.


   (See Appendix N - Equine Event Cleaning and Disinfecting Recommendations)

   (See Appendix O - Characteristics of Selected Disinfectants - Center for Food Security and Public Health)
18. **Communicate Biosecurity Plan:** For successful implementation, the event biosecurity plan must be adequately communicated to event participants, the general public and the event staff. Provide event participants with a written copy of the event biosecurity requirements before the event. Consider including the biosecurity measures in published event documents, such as premium booklets, bylaws and/or rules and regulations. Consider incorporating several communication modalities to ensure adequate dissemination of the event biosecurity information. Social media websites, blogs, listservs, Facebook and Twitter are a rapid and efficient means to communicate important information to participants. Also consider having event participants sign a form agreeing to comply with the event biosecurity measures while at the event. (See Appendix P - Sample Letter Mailed to Registered Exhibitors)
PART 2: ENHANCED BIOSECURITY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL FOR EQUINE EVENTS

Overview

Before any equine event, event organizers, in consultation with the event veterinarian, should develop a biosecurity and infectious disease control plan for an infectious disease outbreak. A veterinarian, in the geographic area of the event facility, is most qualified to assist in the development of this plan and to assist in plan implementation if and when necessary. The American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) provides equine veterinarians with biosecurity and infectious disease control information. Each event is unique so the event veterinarian will refine the control plan based on the specific venue and disease situation.

An equine event biosecurity and infectious disease control plan is a set of measures aimed at controlling the spread of an infectious disease. A plan for response upon detection of an infectious disease is the most effective tool for successfully minimizing the impact of an outbreak. Implementation of an equine event infectious disease control plan at the first suspicion of an infectious disease is pivotal to maintaining the health of the other competition horses at the event and the general equine population.

The objective of this section of the toolkit is to provide equine event managers with resources to address the event biosecurity risks and develop an infectious disease control plan for use in responding to an infectious disease outbreak at the venue. Each event and venue is unique; therefore, the toolkit provides guidance for the assessment and development of event-specific plans to address the identified disease risks of the event and venue.
PART 2: ENHANCED BIOSECURITY AND INFECTIOUS DISEASE CONTROL FOR EQUINE EVENTS

1. Overview

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   t. Communication Plan
Infectious Diseases

Well before an event, event organizers should consult with the event veterinarian to discuss the infectious disease agents that could potentially be introduced to the equine event and the potential modes of disease agent transmission. A veterinarian in the geographic area of the event facility is most qualified to provide insight to diseases of concern. All disease agents are unique, so basic knowledge of the disease of concern and methods of disease agent transmission are beneficial to the event manager in developing the biosecurity and infectious disease control plan.

1. **Potential Agents:** Consulting a veterinarian in the area where the event is to be held can provide valuable insight to specific infectious diseases of concern in the geographic area of the event. The biosecurity and infectious disease control plan should target the likely pathogens and their mechanisms of transmission. In general, infectious disease control plan should consider the following five categories for clinical presentations of infectious diseases:
   a. Respiratory Diseases: Equine Herpesvirus (EHV) -1 & 4 (Rhinopneumonitis), Influenza Virus, *Streptococcus equi* (strangles) and Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA)
   b. Neurologic Diseases: Equine Herpesvirus-1, Rabies, Botulism, Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE), Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) and West Nile Virus (WNV)
   c. Diarrheal Diseases: Salmonellosis, Potomac Horse Fever, Clostridiosis
   d. Vesicular Diseases: Vesicular Stomatitis (VS)
   e. Skin Diseases: Ringworm, Lice, Ticks
   f. Bloodborne Diseases: Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA), Equine Piroplasmosis (EP)
   g. Abscess Diseases: *Corynebacterium pseudotuberculosis* (Pigeon Fever), *Streptococcus equi* (strangles)

2. **Potential Modes of Transmission:** Infectious disease agents have various modes of transmission from one horse to another, such as aerosol, oral, direct contact, fomite and/or vector transmission.
   a. **Aerosol Transmission:** Droplets containing a disease agent are passed through the air from one infected animal to another susceptible animal. The ability of a pathogen to survive and be effectively transmitted by aerosol depends upon stocking density, temperature, ventilation, humidity and dust. Respiratory diseases, such as Influenza Virus, Equine Herpesvirus 1 & 4 and other common respiratory viruses, can quickly spread through an event facility; often horses are exposed before it becomes apparent that an index horse is sick. Airborne diseases are the most difficult to contain and complete control is often not feasible, especially in barns holding frequent events with horses continually being moved in and out. Early detection and response can reduce the number of cases.
   b. **Oral Transmission:** Oral passage of pathogens to the horse occurs through the direct ingestion of contaminated feed and/or water or through oral contact by licking of objects, which have been exposed to infected organisms, or use of shared tack and wipe rags.
   c. **Direct Transmission:** A susceptible animal may have direct exposure when the disease agent directly touches an open wound, mucus membrane or skin. The infectious disease agent can be passed from an infected animal to a susceptible animal through contact with saliva, nose-to-nose contact, rubbing and biting.
d. **Fomite Transmission:** A fomite is an inanimate object that may be contaminated by an infectious organism and serve in disease transmission. Virtually any object can serve as a fomite including equipment (reuse of needles, uncleaned dental / tattoo equipment), water buckets, tack, hoses, clothing, bedding, etc.

e. **Vector Transmission:** Vector borne diseases are those which involve the transmission of an infectious disease agent by biological vectors such as mosquitoes, ticks and flies.

It is important to understand and recognize potential routes of disease agent transmission to develop disease control measures that target potential transmission routes. (See Appendix L - Routes of Disease Transmission and Control Measures for Equine Events.)
Enhanced Biosecurity In the Face of an Outbreak

Disease risks are inherent when animals of varying health status come into contact. Complete elimination of all disease risks at a horse event is not feasible, so event managers must assess the acceptable level of disease risk for their event and develop an event biosecurity plan that will determine the risk tolerance.

Before the event, assessment of the facility layout and construction, animal entry requirements, horse stabling, manure disposal, hay and feed storage, equipment handling, cleaning and disinfection procedures, horse-to-horse contact, horse-to-other species contact, isolation of sick horses, vector and wildlife control, visitor access, traffic control and record keeping is essential. (See Appendix A - Equine Facility Biosecurity Risk Assessment Text Version and Appendix B - Equine Event Biosecurity Risk Assessment Pictorial Version.) The risk assessment of the event grounds and horse handling practices will reveal potential areas for direct or indirect transmission of infectious disease agents between horses. Working with veterinarians and stakeholders, event managers should determine which identified risks warrant implementation of mitigation measures in the basic event biosecurity plan. The implementation of basic biosecurity at an event will maximize the effectiveness of the Infectious Disease Control Plan should an infectious disease outbreak occur.

The initial venue biosecurity risk assessment may identify disease transmission risk areas that cannot be eliminated by a practical day-to-day or routine biosecurity mitigation program. Addressing these risks with biosecurity measures may require significant expenditure of financial and human resources. An enhanced biosecurity plan, which would be implemented simultaneously with the infectious disease control plan during an infectious disease outbreak, should address any biosecurity gaps.

When facing a disease outbreak during an event, enhanced biosecurity measures are necessary to control the disease outbreak. At the time of a disease outbreak, event managers should review the basic biosecurity plan implemented for the specific event and determine which assessed disease risks were not addressed through the basic biosecurity mitigation measures. With suspicion of an infectious disease at the event, it is advisable for event management to work closely with an equine veterinarian to determine the likelihood of the worst-case scenario – an infectious disease has been introduced to the venue. Implementing stricter enhanced measures will assist in the timely control of the most highly contagious diseases. At the time of an outbreak enhanced biosecurity measures may include:

1. **Stop Movement Orders**: Event management, in consultation with the onsite veterinarian, must determine what level of “stop movement” is warranted for the specific disease outbreak situation. Temporary movement restrictions may be necessary until assessment of the situation is complete, after which permission for allowing certain movements on the premises may occur. Under some circumstances it may be appropriate to allow the event to continue with minimal movement restrictions being placed only on sick and directly-exposed horses. Higher disease risk situations will require more stringent movement controls, such as securing the venue and restricting all animal movement. Firm policies should be delivered, preferably face to face, to
those impacted. Enforcement of policies should be consistent and fair. An enhanced biosecurity plan, developed before the event for a disease outbreak situation, should outline procedures to promptly secure the event venue, to redirect personnel resources to close and lock venue gates and to block roadways to and from the venue with barriers. When stop movement orders are issued, monitoring of the premises by event staff will heighten compliance of movement restrictions by participants, owners and trainers. (See Appendix Q - *Stop Movement Sign*)

2. **Control and Track Horse Movement:** During an infectious disease outbreak, it is essential for event management to know what horses are on the event premises and where they are stabled. For events without a check-in gate or admittance protocols, locating horses may require barn to barn inspection and documentation. If a disease outbreak warrants movement controls, a check-out protocol is necessary for all horses being moved from the premises. In some cases, event staff may require owner/agents to obtain approval before horses are moved from the event premises. A basic check-out process includes follow-up owner/agent contact information (cell phone number and email address), documentation of horse identification and the intended destination for the horse(s) being moved from the event premises. Additionally, owner/agents should receive a handout with recommendations for biosecurity measures to be taken at destination premises. (Appendix R - Sample Exhibitor Handout *Biosecurity Measures for Exposed Horses*)

3. **Monitoring of Horse Health:** During an infectious disease outbreak, continuous health monitoring of all horses on the premises is a priority. Designated, knowledgeable, experienced event staff should perform a periodic walk-through of stables and event grounds directly observing horses for any sign of clinical disease. Notify participants of the requirement to monitor their horses for signs of disease and to report any signs of disease to a designated event official. The designated event official will evaluate the reports to determine if the situation requires immediate disease control measures, such as horse isolation and examination by a veterinarian.

4. **Temperature Monitoring of Horses:** A requirement for monitoring horse temperatures two (2) times a day and documenting temperature readings in a log is an easy, efficient, early disease detection tool for horses on the event premises. Ideally, temperature logs should be displayed on the stall door to provide a quick status of individual horse health. Temperatures taken immediately after transport or exercise may be temporarily elevated, so initial temperature monitoring should be obtained after the horse is settled.
in the stable. A horse body temperature over 102°F should be immediately reported to a designated event official. Horses with temperatures between 101°F and 102°F should be monitored for other signs of disease and have the temperature retaken in one (1) hour. To ensure compliance with a horse temperature monitoring requirement, event staff should perform random audits of the temperature monitoring logs. (See Appendix G – Stall Temperature Monitoring Log)

5. Equipment Handling: At the onset of an infectious disease outbreak, instruct all exhibitors who share equipment to stop doing so. Immediately clean equipment of organic matter, thoroughly scrub with detergent and water, rinse, dry and disinfect all previously shared equipment (lead ropes, chains, bits, twitches, thermometers, grooming supplies, etc.). Items, such as tack, to which disinfectants cannot be applied, should be cleaned and allowed to dry in the sun, since sunlight inactivates/kills many pathogens. Any equipment which must be shared during the event should be cleaned and disinfected between uses.

6. Restrict Direct and Indirect Horse Contact: To reduce the spread of disease during an outbreak, steps to limit direct and indirect horse contact are necessary. All areas which are touched by human hands or by horses, such as fences, wash racks, bathroom sinks, faucets and door handles, should be cleaned and disinfected at least daily. Common use items, such as wash stall cross ties and washing equipment, should be removed and exhibitors should be required to use their own equipment. Monitor exercise and exhibition areas to ensure that minimal direct or indirect horse-to-horse contact occurs. Restrict participants from tying horses to fencing outside the arenas or stabling areas, since fencing can be contaminated by secretions of an infected horse. When an aerosol transmitted disease is high on the differential disease list for a sick horse, evaluate the event venue to determine additional methods to minimize risk of aerosol spread of the pathogen. Indoor arenas and indoor stabling can potentially increase the risk of aerosol spread. Indoor events may need to move to an outdoor facility or be cancelled if aerosol pathogen spread is suspected.

7. Control Dog Entry to the Premises: Since dogs may carry infectious disease agents from one location to another on the premises, no dogs should be on the event grounds during an infectious disease outbreak. Require owners with dogs onsite to immediately remove dogs from the event grounds. Dogs should not be placed in trailers or vehicles due to the possibility of escape, barking and temperature stress.

8. Restrict Human-to-Horse Contact: During an infectious disease outbreak, only the owner or designated personnel should handle horses on the event grounds. Limit the sharing of personnel
between barns or trainers. Supply additional hand washing stations and signage during the outbreak to enable horse handlers to perform proper hand sanitation after handling each horse. Where bit inspection is mandatory, the event official conducting the inspection should use and change disposable gloves between handling each horse.

9. Restrict Visitor Access: If a disease outbreak occurs during an event, it is essential to communicate disease biosecurity measures to visitors. Keep visitors out of the horse areas and inform them of proper biosecurity measures if they are returning to horse premises.

10. Post Adequate Biosecurity Signage: The key to successful disease control is implementation of enhanced biosecurity measures. Communication of the plan and measures being implemented are critical; therefore clear and concise signage and messaging to all on the event grounds is essential. During an infectious disease outbreak, there is limited time to develop adequate signage, so developing critical messaging before the event and having clear attention-getting signs available for use in an outbreak will aid in prompt effective communication and successful implementation of enhanced biosecurity and infectious disease control plan measures. Decide in advance where signage will be posted.

11. Strict Cleaning and Disinfection Protocols: Thorough cleaning and disinfection at the beginning of an infectious disease outbreak can significantly reduce the potential for disease agent spread. Inform exhibitors of the Four (4) Step Cleaning and Disinfection Protocol and request them to clean and disinfect their equipment, trailer and vehicle before leaving the grounds. Before the event, develop a contact list of local disinfectant suppliers which you can provide to exhibitors during an outbreak. To limit vehicle traffic on and off the premises, consider ordering bulk disinfectant supplies for delivery to a designated bio-secure area on the event grounds.
(See Appendix N - Equine Event Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations)

### Four (4) Steps to Cleaning and Disinfecting

**Step 1:** Remove all organic matter.

**Step 2:** Wash with soap and rinse with water.

**Step 3:** Allow drying time.

**Step 4:** Apply disinfectant according to label directions.
**Recommendations for an Equine Event Infectious Disease Control Plan**

Developing an infectious disease control plan before an event allows for prompt implementation of controls during an infectious disease outbreak. At the first potential sign of an infectious disease outbreak, event management, in consultation with the event veterinarian, should determine the appropriate level of disease control necessary. Ideally, with the identification of a sick horse, the enhanced biosecurity measures and infectious disease control plan can be immediately implemented. Event managers should consider incorporating the following recommendations in the development of an event infectious disease control plan:

1. **Sick Horse Trigger Point:** Normal health parameters for an adult horse include a temperature of less than 100°F, a resting heart rate of 28-40 beats per minute and a resting respiratory rate of 10-14 breaths per minute. Transient clinical signs, such as a slight increase in body temperature or loose manure, may occur due to the stress of shipping and adjusting to a new environment. These clinical signs may or may not be cause for alarm; however, they may be the clinical signs of an infectious disease. In consultation with an equine veterinarian before the event, event management should determine the definition of a sick horse and specific trigger points warranting a response. General recommendations to consider for designation as a response trigger point would be detection of:
   - a horse with a body temperature more than 102°F
   - a horse that is ataxic or recumbent
   - a horse that is demonstrating either aggressive behavior or stupor
   - a horse with profuse diarrhea, *and/or*
   - a horse with oral or coronary band vesicular or ulcerative lesions.

An adult horse with a body temperature between 101°F and 101.9°F should be monitored for other signs of disease and have the temperature retaken in one (1) hour. Consult local, state or federal animal health officials to determine specific trigger points and response action for reportable diseases. Note, the response to a reportable disease may vary by state; therefore, it is necessary to contact the state or federal official in the state where the event is held to determine reportable diseases.

(See Attachment U - California *List of Reportable Conditions for Animal and Animal Products* and Appendix V - State Animal Health Official Contact List)
2. Potential Isolation Areas: Before the event, event organizers should evaluate the event premises and designate an isolation area available for use during the event. When determining an isolation area location, consider a site as far as possible away from the public and general horse traffic areas. The external perimeter of the isolation area should be secure and clearly marked with adequate signage designating it as a restricted area. If no suitable permanent stabling is available onsite for an isolation area, consider an area on the event grounds to set up a temporary pen structure or an offsite facility for isolation. Optimal isolation stabling has non-porous flooring and is in an area where run off will not occur. Ideally, the isolation area will have water and electricity and be accessible to large equipment if necessary to handle a down or dead horse. The isolation area should be set up and fully equipped at the start of the event, ready for immediate and exclusive use if needed for a suspect horse during the event. In advance, determine the location of a veterinary clinic/hospital that can treat horses with extensive medical needs that you would not be able to address at the onsite isolation area. (See Appendix S - UC Davis, Center for Equine Health Document How to Set Up a Disease Isolation Unit at a Farm or Horse Show)

3. Inventory of Protective Clothing: For use during an infectious disease outbreak, assess and stock an adequate inventory of disposable protective clothing in a variety of sizes, including coveralls, gloves, rubber boots or disposable boot covers. Secure the protective clothing supplies in a location immediately accessible to the isolation area. Biosecurity kits of personal protective clothing are available from Jorgenson’s Laboratory in Loveland, CO (http://www.jorvet.com) or Global Protection in West Berlin, NJ (http://www.globalprotectionllc.com).

4. Sick Horse Reporting: Provide all owner/agents/participants with the sick horse reporting protocols before arrival at the event and again at check-in upon arrival. It is essential to provide the contact information for the designated point of contact for reporting sick horses. Participants should understand that upon receipt of a report of a sick horse, the designated event official will evaluate the situation to determine what control measures are necessary.

5. Immediate Identification and Isolation of Sick Horses: When the designated point of contact is made aware of a horse with a potentially infectious disease, he/she is authorized to implement the event infectious disease control plan. Immediate isolation of a horse demonstrating clinical sign(s) meeting the predetermined sick horse trigger point(s) or compatible with an infectious disease, is key to preventing the potential spread of infection. Until evaluation and status of the suspect horse is determined, plan to hold all other horses that were exposed to the suspect horse in their assigned stalls/barns or at an offsite facility that has been identified to house exposed horses. Horse exposure with the suspect horse would be direct contact with the suspect horse or indirect contact with the suspect horse as in close stabling area, sharing a trailer or being owned/trained by the same individual. If allowing exposed horses to exercise, segregate exposed horses from unexposed horses during exercise periods. Consult a veterinarian to determine the highest risk exposed horses.
6. **Monitoring the Sick Horse:** The onsite event veterinarian should promptly assess the status of the reported sick horse. Depending on the clinical presentation, the veterinarian may obtain blood, nasal swabs, vesicular or ulcerative lesions samples and/or manure samples for diagnostic testing. Depending on the number of sick horses, assign event personnel to assist the veterinarian with collection and shipping of samples and preparation of necessary documentation. Infectious disease control measures should be in place while waiting for laboratory results with the confirmation of the presence or absence of an infectious disease. Determine in advance the closest diagnostic laboratory able to run the necessary test and determine the method of shipping/delivery of sample to the laboratory. Before the event, determine the responsible party for payment of any diagnostic testing (i.e., horse owner or event organization) and communicate the testing and payment information to the event participants.

7. **Entry and Exit Protocols for Isolation Area:** Regulate and record all movement in and out of the isolation area. Post “Restricted Access” signs (in English and Spanish) at all primary perimeter access points to the isolation area. Develop isolation area entry and exit procedures to avoid potential transmission of disease from the horse(s) in the isolation area to other horses on the event premises. Restrict individuals that enter the isolation area from access to any other areas on the event grounds. Ideally, only designated trained staff should work in the isolation area and designated equipment should remain in the isolation area. Locate foot baths (for example, 10% Bleach Solution or other disinfectant the veterinarian recommends) and hand sanitizers (62% Ethyl Alcohol) at all entry points to the isolation area. Monitor foot baths and routinely change the solution when organic material builds up. To eliminate potential pathogens remaining in the nasal passages of humans, all individuals should blow their noses before exiting the isolation area. Ideally, isolation area personnel will shower and change all clothing when leaving the isolation area. At a minimum, isolation area personnel should comply with appropriate hand hygiene and change of clothing and footwear when exiting the area. Hands should be washed under running water with pump-dispensed liquid soap (not bar soap) for a minimum of 20 seconds. As an alternative, hands may be sanitized with a 62% ethyl alcohol hand gel or foam disinfectant and allowed to dry (10-15 seconds). All supplies should be in the isolation area before movement of a sick horse into the area. If necessary, additional supplies may be brought to an area adjacent to the isolation area for easy transfer into the area. An isolated horse should remain in the isolation stall, but if necessary, arrange access to an outside area with no access by other horse or humans. Manure and soiled bedding from stalls of sick horses should not be put in open air piles or pits, but should be placed in heavy plastic bags for disposal in landfill. (See Appendix T - Equine Event Isolation Protocol Guidance)
8. **Notification of Animal Health Officials:** The infectious disease control plan should include contact information for state animal health officials. Some infectious diseases, by law, must be reported to state animal health officials within certain timelines. During plan development, the state animal health official can provide guidance on biosecurity and infectious disease control plans for reportable diseases. Following receipt of a reportable disease, state or federal animal health officials will conduct an investigation to determine if the situation warrants regulatory action. In California, state animal health officials have the authority to issue quarantine and stop movement of animals and animal products that pose a significant health risk to other animals or the public. During an infectious disease investigation at an equine event, state officials will request an exhibitor list from event management that includes horse names, current owner/agent name and contact telephone number, including cell phone number, email address and mailing address and location address for horses that participated in the event. (See Appendix V - State Animal Health Official Contact List)

9. **Handling Rabies Suspect:** All warm-blooded animals demonstrating neurologic clinical signs have the potential to be infected with rabies. The most consistent signs in a rabid horse include irritability, hypersensitivity to touch, altered mentation (aggression or stupor), progressive paresis and paralysis. Isolate all horses demonstrating neurologic clinical signs and clearly post a “Rabies Suspect” sign on the stall. Obtain the rabies vaccination status of the horse. Based on the clinical presentation and diagnostics, the onsite veterinarian may contact the local public health officer. The contact number for the local public health officer should be in the infectious disease control plan for the event. Restrict personnel access to the horse and ensure that anyone contacting the horse wears double gloves and protective clothing at all times while in contact with the horse. Record the names of all who make contact with the animal in a log. (See Appendix W - Contact List of California Local County Public Health Officer)

10. **Euthanasia of a Horse; Carcass Handling:** If the condition of a sick horse worsens or it is unable to stand, euthanasia may be the only option. The ideal location for euthanasia is a remote area of the show grounds, accessible to large equipment or trucks, with no public access. The infectious disease control plan should include contact information for a rendering truck or dead hauler, who can remove a carcass from the premises. For biosecurity reasons, the route for a rendering truck or dead hauler on and off the event premises should not cross any horse or exhibitor areas. A necropsy of any horse that dies or is euthanized is strongly recommended. For events in California, contact the nearest California Animal Health and Food Safety Laboratory to arrange a necropsy. An Equine Herpes Myeloencephalopathy necropsy protocol is available to equine veterinarians from The American Association of Equine Practitioners.
11. Exposure Assessment of All Event Horses: An equine event infectious disease control plan requires a mechanism to assess the exposure risk of all horses on the property. Knowledge of the location and activities of the sick horse(s) before the onset of clinical signs is essential for determining the exposure risk of other horses. In general, a horse which had direct contact (nose-to-nose, fence line) with a sick horse would be a high-risk animal and a horse which may have had indirect contact (communal water trough, shared wash rack, shared equipment, common personnel, etc.) with a sick horse would be a medium-risk animal. Any horse which had no direct or indirect contact with a sick horse would be a low-risk animal. Exposure assessments may vary based on the disease agents involved in the outbreak. For example during an influenza outbreak, all horses stabled in a location with shared airspace (i.e., same barn) would be exposed high-risk horses. A veterinarian can assist in the exposure designations based on the disease agent and the facility layout. (See Appendix X - Exposed Horse Release Assessment)

12. Release of Horses from Event: Horses that are moved from an event premises where an infectious disease is suspected or confirmed pose a risk to the general equine population. Under some circumstance, the state animal health official may quarantine animals and determine criteria for release from quarantine. When diseases are not reportable or regulated by state animal health officials, the event management, in consultation with the event veterinarian, is responsible for establishing releasing criteria from the premises. Event management should develop a releasing system for allowing movement of horses from the event to ensure appropriate and timely release of horses from the venue where an infectious disease event occurred. The system should evaluate individual horse exposure status; base the determination for release of horses from the event grounds on known exposure level and the ability of the owner to isolate and monitor the potentially exposed horse at the destination premises for at least fourteen (14) days. Consider prompt release of low-risk horses. Consider release of medium-risk horses only if the owner/agent can ensure adequate biosecurity measures and monitoring at the destination premises. All other horses should remain onsite until the infectious disease situation is under control. (See Appendix X - Exposed Horse Release Assessment)

13. Advice to People Leaving the Venue: Plan to allow spectators that have had no contact with horses at the venue to leave the premises without restriction. Individuals who have had direct contact with horses at the venue pose a potential risk for disease spread; advise such individuals leaving the property to take biosecurity measures of blowing their nose, hand washing, cleaning and disinfecting boots, changing clothing and potentially showering before making contact with horses on other premises. Plan to post biosecurity signage at venue exit gates and distribute prepared handouts outlining the basic biosecurity measures which should be taken to prevent disease spread. Advise horse haulers to clean and disinfect trailers after hauling horses from the event. (See Appendix R – Exhibitor Handout Biosecurity Measures for Exposed Horse and Appendix Y - Cleaning and Disinfecting A Horse Trailer)

14. Locating Horses Moved from the Venue: The contact information and intended destination of animals being moved from the venue that you obtain at check-out from the venue become invaluable in an infectious disease outbreak situation. If horses were moved from the premises before the infectious disease was detected, they may have been exposed to the infectious disease agent. To prevent
potential disease spread at other equine premises, plan to contact the owner/agents for horses that were moved from the venue to inform them of the incident and recommend implementation of appropriate biosecurity measures and isolation and monitoring of the potentially exposed horses.

15. **Monitoring Exposed Horses Onsite**: Plan to continually monitor all horses which remain onsite for signs of disease. Institute strict biosecurity measures for each remaining horse to include isolation, cleaning and disinfection of all equipment, no sharing of equipment (if equipment must be shared, clean and disinfect it between use) and hand washing or use of hand sanitizer by individuals between horse contacts. Procedures similar to those used in isolation go a long way toward ensuring no further disease spread among exposed horses. Plan for event staff to make routine visits around the stabling area to enhance compliance with biosecurity procedures.

16. **Feed and Bedding Delivery**: The plan should include feedstore contact information to arrange for feed and bedding delivery if horses are held on the premises for more than twelve (12) hours. Event management staff should assess the potential feed and bedding needs on the premises and consider necessary arrangements for a single delivery to a designated area. To minimize disease spread on the event grounds, designate personnel to be responsible for the delivery of the feed to the barns.

17. **Cleaning and Disinfection (C & D)**: Once an outbreak is controlled and all horses have been permitted to be moved from the premises, the entire premises must be cleaned and disinfected. Organic material, such as manure and soiled bedding, can inactivate disinfectants and render them less effective. It is important to remove all manure, soiled bedding and uneaten feed first. Then remove residual organic matter by washing all surfaces with soap and water before the application of a disinfectant. For maximum efficacy, disinfectants require adequate contact time with the surface being disinfected. Always use disinfectants according to the manufacturer labeled instructions. Sunlight inactivates/kills many pathogens. After cleaning and disinfecting buckets, tack and equipment allow them to dry in the sunlight if possible. After C & D for some pathogens, like Salmonella, it may be necessary to obtain test swabs of the environment to determine elimination of the organism. Work with the event veterinarian or a subject matter expert on appropriate C & D for difficult to kill pathogens. (See Appendix N - Equine Event Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations and Appendix O - Characteristics of Selected Disinfectants - Center for Food Security and Public Health.)

18. **Delegation of Responsibility**: A well-written infectious disease control plan should clearly outline event staff roles and responsibilities during the outbreak. The plan should specifically name individuals for assigned tasks during an outbreak response. Before the event, designate a single person responsible for control of the situation during an infectious disease outbreak at the event site. This person should be the sole person communicating with the onsite veterinarian, the event organizing body and the state animal health official. Clearly communicate the assignments in advance of the event to ensure that individuals have time to read and understand their responsibility. The plan should also clearly articulate a timeline for actions to occur during a disease outbreak. (See Appendix Z - Checklist of Responsibilities for Infectious Disease Control Plan)

19. **Disciplinary Policies**: It is essential that all individuals on the event grounds comply with the infectious disease control measures to prevent disease spread during an outbreak. Before the event,
event managers should consult with organization leaders to determine what disciplinary actions will be taken against individuals who fail to comply with necessary disease control measures. Owner/agents and event participants should receive the infectious disease control plan and disciplinary measures for noncompliance with the plan before the event.

20. **Communication Plan:** Notification of all affected parties is a critical component for an effective infectious disease control plan. Development of clear, concise and accurate messages about a situation, the measures being taken and the procedures for event participants to follow is critical to prevent the spread of disease and panic among event participants and the general horse-owning public. Before the event, outline a communication plan notification scheme to notify event staff, participants, venue owners, event organizers and vendors in the event of an incident. Consider incorporating several communication modalities to ensure rapid, unified messaging to a large audience. Contact information for other individuals who may be able to assist during an infectious disease outbreak should be organized and readily available. Create a complete emergency contact list and provide it to all event staff and volunteers at the beginning of the event. Consider having a public relations specialist develop a communication plan and have their contact information readily available for provision of messaging at the appropriate level and preparation of timely updates. For events held by associations with public relations specialists, preparation of a press release with daily updates allows for clear, concise and accurate information sharing. (See Appendix AA – Communication Contact List Template)
PART 3: APPENDIX

A. Equine Facility Biosecurity Risk Assessment- Text Version
B. Equine Event Biosecurity Risk Assessment- Pictorial Version
C. Equine Event Biosecurity Policy Risk Assessment
D. Cleaning and Disinfection of a Vacated Stall
E. Record of Attendance at Equine Event
F. Equine Event Participation Declaration
G. Stall Temperature Monitoring Log
H. *Stop Don’t Share Equipment* Sign
I. *Top Tips to Keeping Your Horse Healthy at Shows* Poster and *Biosecurity at Equine Events* Handout
J. CDC *Wash Hands When Leaving Animal Exhibit* Poster
K. CDC *Be Safe Around Animals* Poster
L. Routes of Disease Transmission and Control Measures for Equine Events
M. Wildlife, Bird and Rodent Control Measures
N. Equine Event Cleaning and Disinfection Recommendations
O. Characteristics of Selected Disinfectants
P. Sample Letter to Mail to Registered Exhibitor
Q. *Stop Movement* Sign
R. Exhibitor Handout *Biosecurity Measures for Exposed Horse*
S. UC Davis Center for Equine Health- *How to Set Up a Disease Isolation Unit at a Farm or Show*
T. Equine Event Isolation Protocol Guidance
U. California *List of Reportable Conditions for Animals and Animal Products*
V. State Animal Health Official Contact List
W. Contact List of California Local County Public Health Officer
X. Exposed Horse Release Assessment
Y. Cleaning and Disinfecting a Horse Trailer
Z. Checklist of Responsibilities for Infectious Disease Control Plan
AA. Communications Contact List Template
BB. References

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Event Facility Biosecurity Risk Assessment

Disease risk cannot be completely eliminated from an equine event. Well before an event, event organizers, in consultation with a veterinarian hired by the event, should conduct a biosecurity risk assessment of the event facilities and horse handling practices. An evaluation of current management practices will help identify potential biosecurity risks. It is important to evaluate the level of risk, and then determine what measures to take in the Event Biosecurity and Infectious Disease Control Plan to address the risk areas of concern.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Minimal Biosecurity Risk</th>
<th>Medium Biosecurity Risk</th>
<th>High Biosecurity Risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Stalls</strong></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Number of Stalls</td>
<td>Twice the number of stalls needed</td>
<td>Some Extra Stalls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Walls</td>
<td>Solid</td>
<td>Half Walls</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Material</td>
<td>Metal</td>
<td>Treated Wood (non-porous)</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Assignment of Stalls</td>
<td>Grouped by Owner/Trainers with separation between Owner/Trainers</td>
<td>Grouped By Owner/Trainer - No Separation Between Owners/Trainers.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Isolation Area</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Isolation Location</td>
<td>Available designated empty barn isolated away from all other exhibitor stalls.</td>
<td>One empty barn at the end of the competitor barns.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vehicle Access</td>
<td>Restricted Vehicle Access with Monitoring at Entrance</td>
<td>Restricted Vehicle Access with No Monitoring of Entrance.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Feed and Water</th>
<th></th>
<th></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Feed storage</td>
<td>Covered hay and sealed containers for feed kept in a separate secure stall.</td>
<td>Secure storage stall with open feed bags and uncovered hay.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Water sources</td>
<td>Only Individual Water Buckets in Use</td>
<td>Stream or Large Water Source</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Separation of Feed and Manure Handling Equipment</td>
<td>Complete separation of feed and manure handling equipment.</td>
<td>Limited separation of feed and manure handling equipment</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Event Facility Biosecurity Risk Assessment

## Minimal Biosecurity Risk

### Wash Stall Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horse-to-Horse Contact</th>
<th>No nose-to-nose contact possible</th>
<th>Limited nose-to-nose contact possible</th>
<th>Nose-to-nose contact likely</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Equipment</td>
<td>No Sharing of Equipment</td>
<td>Restricted sharing of equipment (i.e., horses in same barn)</td>
<td>No restrictions - equipment is freely shared</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hose Contact with Horse</td>
<td>Horse never makes direct contact with hose</td>
<td>Horse makes limited direct contact with hose</td>
<td>Horse has direct contact with hose</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hose Placement</td>
<td>Hose is hung on wall after each use</td>
<td>Hose is sometimes hung after each use</td>
<td>Hose is left lying on the ground</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Fecal Material</td>
<td>Removed Immediately</td>
<td>Routinely removed throughout the day</td>
<td>Removed at the end of the event</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## Medium Biosecurity Risk

### Horse Commingling Areas

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Exercise/Warm Up Area</th>
<th>No shared exercise areas: all horses exercise independently</th>
<th>Shared exercise area with minimal possible direct horse-to-horse contact</th>
<th>Shared exercise area with direct horse-to-horse contact</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Competition Area</td>
<td>No shared competition areas - all horses compete independently</td>
<td>Shared competition area with minimal direct horse-to-horse contact</td>
<td>Shared competition area with direct horse-to-horse contact</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

## High Biosecurity Risk

### Parking

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Parking</th>
<th>Restricted trailer parking, monitored and separate from barn area and not accessible by visitors</th>
<th>Shared parking, but separate from visitor access</th>
<th>Unrestricted parking next to horse barns and accessible by visitors</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restricted exhibitor parking, monitored and separate from barn and visitor parking</td>
<td>Shared parking but separate from visitor parking</td>
<td>Unrestricted Parking</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Restricted visitor parking, monitored and separate from barn and exhibitor and trailer parking</td>
<td>Shared parking, but separate from trailer parking</td>
<td>Unrestricted Parking</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

**TOTALS**

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### Other Areas

- **Exercise Area:**
  - No shared exercise areas: all horses exercise independently
  - Shared exercise area with minimal possible direct horse-to-horse contact
  - Shared exercise area with direct horse-to-horse contact

- **Horse Parking Area:**
  - Restricted trailer parking, monitored and separate from barn area and not accessible by visitors
  - Shared parking, but separate from visitor access
  - Unrestricted parking next to horse barns and accessible by visitors

- **Visitor Parking Area:**
  - Restricted visitor parking, monitored and separate from barn and exhibitor and trailer parking
  - Shared parking, but separate from trailer parking
  - Unrestricted Parking

---
Equine Event Biosecurity Risk Assessment Pictorial

Horse Stabling Area

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>HIGH RISK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantages: Although the treated wood surface is easier to disinfect, the spacing between boards and the half door permit horse-to-horse contact. The horses stabled in an enclosed barn have a potentially increased respiratory disease risk due to challenges in air circulation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Advantages: The smoother wood surface is easier to disinfect.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODERATE RISK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantages: Top of stall door can be closed to restrict contact with other horses, animals and humans. Stables with stall doors facing outward have improved air circulation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantages: Non-treated wood surface and dirt flooring cannot be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>MODERATE RISK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Advantages: Top of stall door can be closed to restrict contact with other horses, animals and humans. Stables with stall door facing outward have improved air circulation.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disadvantages: Although the wood surface is treated, unless treated with materials that make it non-porous, the surface could still potentially harbor disease agents after disinfection.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
**Equine Event Biosecurity Risk Assessment Pictorial**

**Horse Stabling Area**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOWER RISK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advantages:</strong> The solid metal walls can be effectively cleaned and disinfected. The bars do prevent the horse from extending their head in the aisle way; however, it does not eliminate horse contact with other horses and humans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disadvantages:</strong> Horses stabled in an enclosed barn potentially have an increased respiratory disease risk due to air circulation challenges. However, with adequate air space above the stalls and the open end of the barn, the risk is lower.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOWER RISK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advantages:</strong> The solid canvas wall stalls can be effectively cleaned and disinfected. The front bars on the stall do prevent a horse from extending their head in the aisle way; however, they do not eliminate possible contact with other horses and humans.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disadvantages:</strong> There is a potential for increased aerosol pathogen spread in an enclosed barn due to challenges in air circulation. However, the risk is lowered with adequate air space above the stalls and the stall doors facing outward.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>LOWER RISK</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Advantages:</strong> Horse is restricted to contact with its own trailer, likely with horses from similar geographic areas and disease status.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disadvantages:</strong> Potential exists for contact with other horses, humans and animals.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Horse Commingling Areas

Congregating horses creates the potential for exposure to disease agents by direct contact with another horse or indirect contact with a surface potentially contaminated with an infectious disease agent.

Wash Stalls

Hoses, although helpful to exhibitors, have the potential to spread disease if inserted into multiple buckets or left lying on the ground between use. Standing water can act as breeding ground for West Nile Virus carrying mosquitoes. Recommend daily periodic cleaning and disinfection of wash stalls with no known disease at the facility and more often if a disease outbreak occurs.

Dog on Event Grounds

If dogs are allowed on the event grounds, an effective dog leash policy should be enforced to ensure dogs remain on a leash under control of an individual.
Vehicles entering the equine event venue may carry infectious disease pathogens on their tires or undercarriage. Therefore, restricting vehicle parking limits disease transmission risk. Once horses are unloaded, trailers should be parked in a designated horse trailer parking area.

Pathogens can be spread through the use of communal water troughs. Events which require individuals to bring their own water buckets to fill from a water faucet have a lower disease transmission risk.

Feed and hay supplies should be protected from the elements and stored in a secure location. Feed and manure handling equipment should be stored separately from hay and feed supplies to prevent contamination.
Disease risk cannot be completely eliminated from an equine event. Well before an event, event organizers, in consultation with a veterinarian hired by the event, should conduct a risk assessment of the event policies to identify potential biosecurity risks. It is important to evaluate the level of risk to determine what measures can be taken to address the risk areas of concern in the event biosecurity and infectious disease control plan.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Event Policy Biosecurity Risk Assessment</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
</table>

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th><strong>Minimal Biosecurity Risk</strong></th>
<th><strong>Medium Biosecurity Risk</strong></th>
<th><strong>High Biosecurity Risk</strong></th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Horse Health Entry Requirement</td>
<td>Horse health declaration, Certificate of Veterinary Inspection and temperature documentation required for all horses</td>
<td>Participants are required to sign horse health declaration upon arrival, but no Certificate of Veterinary Inspection or temperature record are required</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Stall Assignment Records</td>
<td>Stall is assigned to a designated horse and information recorded</td>
<td>Stalls are assigned to owners/trainers in groups and recorded</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Exhibitor Contact Information</td>
<td>Owner/agent current phone number and, email address and horse origin and destination addresses are recorded for all exhibitors upon arrival</td>
<td>Owner/agent phone number and address available but horse location unknown</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Reporting of Suspicion of Illness in Horses</td>
<td>All participants are notified in writing, before and upon arrival, of the requirement to immediately report any suspicion of an infectious disease in horses to event staff</td>
<td>Signage alone notifies participants of the requirement to report any suspicion of infectious disease in horses to event staff</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Monitoring of Horse Health</td>
<td>Qualified, knowledgeable event staff are designated to inspect every horse upon arrival and periodically monitor horses for duration of the event</td>
<td>Event staff conduct random walk through of the barns to monitor health status of horses</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Temperature Monitoring</td>
<td>Temperature monitoring of horses required two times/day with record posted on stall door.</td>
<td>Temperature monitoring of horses by participants is recommended.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
# Event Policy Biosecurity Risk Assessment

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Minimal Biosecurity Risk</th>
<th>Medium Biosecurity Risk</th>
<th>High Biosecurity Risk</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Event Staff</strong></td>
<td>Communication to participants done before the event to discourage equipment sharing. Signs posted on event grounds to discourage equipment sharing.</td>
<td>Only signs to discourage equipment sharing are posted.</td>
<td>No signs discouraging equipment sharing are posted and no equipment sharing policy exists for the event.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Horse Handling</strong></td>
<td>Event staff are provided strict instructions on handling event horses, which includes use and change of disposable gloves and use of hand sanitizer between contacts with horses.</td>
<td>Event staff are asked to use hand sanitizer between contacts with horses.</td>
<td>There are no policies regarding handling of horses by event staff.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Visitors</strong></td>
<td>Visitors are restricted from horse stabling area; no direct visitor contact with horses is permitted.</td>
<td>There is restricted access of visitors to horse stabling areas.</td>
<td>There are no restrictions on visitor access to horse stabling areas.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Dogs</strong></td>
<td>Dogs are not permitted on the event grounds.</td>
<td>Dogs are required to be on a leash at the event.</td>
<td>There are no restrictions for dogs on the event grounds.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Event Biosecurity</strong></td>
<td>Adequate signage for parking, restricted access areas and biosecurity measures.</td>
<td>Limited signage for parking, restricted area access and biosecurity measures.</td>
<td>No signage for parking, restricted access areas or biosecurity measures.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Signage</strong></td>
<td>Event management consulted with veterinarian and wrote a specific, detailed biosecurity and infectious disease control plan for the specific event and venue.</td>
<td>Event management developed a general biosecurity outline and biosecurity and infectious disease control plan.</td>
<td>No biosecurity plan or biosecurity and infectious disease control plans developed by event management.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
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**TOTALS**
1. Mucking out, cleaning and disinfecting a stall is ideally done within four (4) hours of a horse vacating the stall. If the vacated horse was sick, personnel should wear protective clothing, disposable boot covers and gloves while cleaning the stall.

2. Completely remove all feed, bedding and manure. Use a broom to sweep small-particle materials into a pile and remove.

3. Gently rinse the inside of the stall door and the walls with low pressure water (no nozzle). Manually wash all visible loose organic matter down the walls. The use of high pressure water (i.e., pressure washer) is not recommended for cleaning stalls since it distributes dirt and infectious agents into the air and onto adjacent surfaces.

4. Use a foaming soap agent and a stiff-bristle brush to scrub the inside of the stall door and all four walls. The brush should be one that can fit into the corners of the stall.

5. Always scrub from the TOP DOWN in the following order:
   a. Scrub each wall, starting with the top left-hand corner of the back wall.
   b. Scrub an area 18 to 24 inches wide, using horizontal strokes from top of the wall to the bottom, then rescrub the same area using vertical strokes.
   c. Move 18 to 24 inches to the right on the wall, and scrub another 18 to 24-inch wide section, slightly overlapping the previously scrubbed area in the same manner from the top of the wall to the bottom.
   d. Continue this process until you have scrubbed all four walls and the inside of the door.
   e. Use the same scrubbing pattern on cement floors.

6. Use a designated brush to clean specific stall areas such as gate hinges, between pipes, waterers, hay racks, feed buckets, pipes, latches and ledges.

7. Gently rinse off the foaming soap agent. Rescrub areas found with manure, blood or dirt “caked on” them with foaming agent until clean, since organic matter interferes with the effectiveness of disinfectants. Remove any particulate matter left in the stall after scrubbing.

8. Finally, disinfect all stall surfaces:
   a. Spray the inside of the stall door, all four walls and any concrete floor with a disinfectant and use the same stiff-bristle brush and double-scrubbing pattern on all surfaces. Also spray the disinfectant solution on waterers, hayracks, feed buckets, pipes, latches, gate hinges and ledges. In general, 1:10 dilution of bleach to water is an effective disinfectant. However, in most stall situations, organic material cannot be completely eliminated, therefore it is necessary to use a disinfectant that has activity in the presence of organic materials, such as a phenolic (1 Stoke Environ® or SynPhenol-3®) or an accelerated hydrogen peroxide product (Intervention®). All disinfectants should be used according to manufacturer recommendations and label instructions.
   b. Allow an appropriate contact time for the disinfectant. For a 1:10 bleach to water solution a minimum contact time is ten minutes. Then gently rinse the inside of the door, the walls, the floor and all other stall surfaces and equipment with water.
   c. The disinfectant application/scrubbing process may be repeated three times.

9. After use, remove all particulate matter from stall cleaning equipment, such as shovels, rakes, brooms and brushes; wash then soak the equipment in a barrel with disinfectant solution. Always disinfect stall cleaning equipment before cleaning another stall.

10. A designated event official should visually inspect cleaned/disinfected stalls to ensure that the stall is ready for a new occupant before assigning the stall to an owner/agent for another horse.

11. Once the stall has been cleaned, disinfected and inspected, the outer stall door should be kept closed until a new horse is assigned to the stall.
Sample Letter to Mail to Registered Exhibitors

Dear Exhibitor,

We have received your registration for EVENT X on EVENT DATE X. Protecting the health of your horse and other horses at this event is of the upmost importance to event management. This event is implementing biosecurity measures to decrease the risk of infectious disease agent introduction and spread at this event.

Regardless of whether they are participating in the event or not, all horses and livestock that enter the grounds will be subject to examination by event officials/designated representatives and/or State Animal Health Officials. Such examinations are to determine if the animal(s) is/are, has/have been infected/exposed, or are likely to be infected with an infectious or contagious disease. If after such examination, an official believes the health condition of an animal will place other animals at risk, the officials may quarantine the animal(s) and others that may have been infected/exposed, or if necessary, require movement of the animal(s) from the show grounds. All participants must agree to fully cooperate with examining officials and abide by their decisions/instructions. Failure to comply with officials shall be grounds for immediate expulsion of the participant from the grounds and potential disciplinary action(s) by the sponsoring organization and local/state or federal officials.

The equine health entry requirements for this event include: \(\text{(EVENT MANAGER TO CHOOSE ONE or MORE and DELETE OTHERS)}\)

a. Horses displaying obvious signs of clinical disease, such as fever, abnormal nasal discharge, consistent frequent coughing, neurologic signs of ataxia or significant hind limb weakness are not permitted to enter the event grounds.

b. Event No Fever Policy:
   i. Each horse entering the premises must have documentation demonstrating a record of body temperature readings with none above 102°F for a designated time period before arrival at the event premises. \(\text{(For example, 72 hours)}\)
   ii. Show officials will obtain a body temperature of all horses at the time of arrival to the event premises and all horses will be subject to periodic inspection by event officials during the event.
   iii. Owner/agents will monitor and document on a log the body temperature of their horse(s) \(\text{X}\) times a day during the event. \(\text{(For example, two times a day)}\)

c. Health Certification Policy
   i. Owner/agents must present to event officials at the time of arrival to the event premises, a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (health certificate), written within \(\text{X}\) hours \(\text{(For example, seventy-two (72) hours)}\) of arrival to the event premises.

d. Event Participation Declaration: (See Appendix F for Sample Event Participation Declaration)
   i. Owners/agents must sign a health certification statement verifying that the horse(s) has/have been healthy with no sign of infectious disease for the preceding three (3) days and a body temperature below 102°F during the \(\text{X}\) hours \(\text{(For example, 72 hours)}\) before arrival at the event premises.
Sample Letter to Mail to Registered Exhibitors

ii. Owner/agents must provide event officials with the address of the premises where each horse was located immediately before arrival at the event and the address of the intended premises of destination for each horse following departure from the event premises.

In addition to the above entry requirement, the following biosecurity measures are recommended:

- Dogs are not permitted on the event premises or All dogs on the event premises must be kept on a leash
- Limit horse-to-horse contact
- Limit horse-to-human-to-horse contact
- Avoid sharing of equipment, to include tack, water buckets, brushes, wipe rags, etc.
- Avoid use of communal water troughs
- Avoid submerging end of water hoses in water buckets
- Do not allow horses to drink directly from a water hose
- Avoid tying horses to fences or gates on the event grounds
- Cover all feed and hay to prevent access by vermin, birds or other animals
- Monitor your horse frequently for signs of disease during the event
- Immediately report any sick horse(s) to designated event official or veterinarian
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect all equipment before use at the home premises
- Isolate and monitor all animals upon return to the home premises.

In the event of an emergency or infectious disease incident at the event, all participants and horses will remain at the venue until event management provides clearance for departure from the event premises.

In the case of an infectious disease event, event officials will evaluate individual horse disease exposure risk and provide owner/agents with follow up disease monitoring instructions. In the event movement restrictions are put in place, each owner/agent is responsible for the care and maintenance of their horse(s) on the premises.

We appreciate your compliance with event management efforts to maintain biosecurity at the upcoming event.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXXXX
Event Manager
Horse Event Participation Declaration

Event Name: _______________________________________________________________

Event Location:_____________________________________________________________

Event Date(s): ____________________

Contact Person:
Name of Person in Charge of Horse(s) at the Event: ___________________________________________
Address: ______________________________________________________________________________
Home Phone Number: ___________________________
Cell Phone Number: ___________________________
Email Address: ___________________________________________
Truck License Plate #: ___________________________

Horses in Shipment

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<tr>
<th>Name of Horse</th>
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<th>Sex</th>
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Address of property from which the horse was moved to the event:

Address of property to which the horse will move after the event: (If different from above.)

Alternate Contact Information (For other individuals affiliated with named horses)
Name
Cell Phone #
Name
Cell Phone #

Horse Health Declaration

I, ___________________________________________ declare that the horse(s) named above has/have been in good health, with body temperature(s) below 102°F, eating normally and has/have not shown signs of infectious disease for the three (3) days preceding arrival at this event.

Signature __________________________________  Date _________________

(Complete a separate form for different owners.)
# Temperature Monitoring Log

Horse Name: ___________________________ Owner Name: _______________________________

Contact Person Name: _____________________________ Cell Phone Number: _____________

Instructions: Record the rectal body temperature of horse two times/day, every morning and evening. A body temperature recording above 102°F is considered a fever that must be reported to a veterinarian and/or event management. Record in Comments the presence (Y) or absence (N) of clinical signs of disease, which includes, but is not limited to, the following: abnormal nasal discharge, coughing, diarrhea, ataxia or wobbly gait, altered mentation (aggression or stupor), abnormal slobbering or off feed.

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Don’t Share Equipment

STOP

Biosecurity Protocols In Effect
TOP TIPS TO KEEPING YOUR HORSE HEALTHY AT HORSE SHOWS

1. Avoid direct horse-to-horse contact.

2. Monitor your horse for clinical signs of disease and report a temperature over 102°F to a veterinarian.

3. Avoid horse-to-human-horse contact.

4. Avoid sharing equipment unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between uses.

5. Avoid use of communal water sources.
Exhibiting at Horse Events

Horse shows, competitions and sales are an important component of California’s horse industry. Many hours of training and hard work are invested to prepare healthy, high quality horses for competition and exhibition. Participation in equine events may pose a potential risk to horse health. The stresses of travel, close confinement and a new environment may compromise a horse’s resistance to disease. The commingling of horses of different breeds, ages and from multiple premises and disease management backgrounds, creates an environment for potential disease exposure. People attending horse events may also contribute to potential disease spread. Horses returning to their home stables may pose a risk of disease introduction and spread to their stable mates.

Event Biosecurity

Biosecurity refers to measures taken to prevent the introduction and spread of new disease agents into a herd. Commingling of horses, multiple human contacts and contaminated equipment represent the greatest threats for disease exposure and spread at horse events. Consistent biosecurity practices play an important role in reducing the risk of exposure to infectious diseases when attending an equine event. Even the best biosecurity does not eliminate all risk of disease exposure. However, each measure taken will reduce the potential of disease exposure and help keep your horse healthy.

Transport Healthy Horses

Horses which travel frequently and commingle with various horses at events have the highest risk for disease exposure. Only healthy horses should participate in equine events. Before horses leave their home stable, a veterinarian should examine each horse to ensure the health of the animal. Consult your veterinarian for vaccination recommendations before travel to the event. Record each horse’s normal resting vital signs, which include temperature, heart rate and respiratory rate. Check with event management for health entry requirements, some events may require health certification statements signed by a veterinarian and some may require owner health declarations.

A clean and disinfected trailer should be used each time a horse is shipped to a new premises. At the time of loading the horse onto the trailer, observe each horse for any obvious signs of disease, such as abnormal nasal discharge, persistent frequent coughing, and neurologic signs of ataxia or hind limb weakness. Horses displaying signs of disease should not be shipped to an event.

Monitor Horse Health at Event

A horse appearing healthy entering an event grounds may be infected with an infectious disease agent or incubating the disease. The stress of travel and the stress of competition may result in that horse becoming sick. Continual monitoring of horse health throughout the event is essential. Any horse displaying clinical signs of disease poses a risk of disease spread to the population of horses on the event grounds. Any horse displaying clinical signs and/or a temperature above 102°F should be reported to a designated event official or a veterinarian. Immediate isolation of the sick horse is essential to prevent disease spread.

Limit Exposure to Disease

Infectious disease pathogens may be brought to and spread at an event premises by horses, people, domestic animals other than horses, vehicles, equipment, insects, ticks, birds, wildlife including rodents, feed, waste and water. The following simple
biosecurity steps significantly reduce exposure risk to disease pathogens:

- Limit horse-to-horse contact, especially nose to nose contact.

- Avoid sharing of equipment unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between uses.

- Limit horse-to-human-to-horse contact

- Wash hands between handling horses, particularly other people’s horses.

- Avoid use of communal water sources.

- Clean and Disinfect Equipment: Before leaving the event grounds, clean and disinfect all equipment including feed buckets, feeders, hay racks, shovels, pitch forks, muck buckets, wheelbarrows, grooming equipment, vehicle and trailer (inside and outside.)

- Isolate Returning Horses: If possible, isolate returning horses for a minimum of 2 weeks. Isolated horses should have no direct contact with other horses and should be handled, fed, and stalls cleaned last.

- Shower and Change Clothes: Participants should shower, blow their nose and change clothes and footwear before entering the home stables. Clothing and footwear worn at an equine event should be thoroughly cleaned and disinfected prior to use on the home premises.

Cleaning and Disinfection

Most disease agents are susceptible to the various disinfectants. However, some disinfectants, specifically alcohol and bleach, are inactivated by organic matter, such as soil and manure. Consult a veterinarian for disinfectant recommendations.

Follow the four step process of cleaning and disinfection:

- **Step 1**: Remove organic matter.
- **Step 2**: Wash with soap and rinse with water.
- **Step 3**: Allow time to dry.
- **Step 4**: Apply a disinfectant.

Use disinfectants according to label directions following safety precautions. Comply with all product label application instructions and ensure adequate disinfectant contact time with surfaces for maximum efficacy.

In general, 1:10 dilution of bleach to water is effective. However, in most stall situations, organic material cannot be completely eliminated, therefore it is necessary to use a disinfectant that has activity in the presence of organic materials, such as phenolics (1 Stoke Environ® or SynPhenol-3®) or an accelerated hydrogen peroxide product (Intervention®). All products should be used in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations and label instructions.
Wash Hands When Leaving Animal Exhibits

WHO

Everyone, especially young children, older individuals, and people with weakened immune systems

WHEN

Always Wash Hands:

- After touching animals or their living area
- After leaving the animal area
- After taking off dirty clothes or shoes
- After going to the bathroom
- Before preparing foods, eating, or drinking

HOW

- Wet your hands with clean, running water
- Apply soap
- Rub hands together to make a lather and scrub well, including backs of hands, between fingers, and under fingernails
- Rub hands at least 20 seconds. Need a timer? Hum the “Happy Birthday” song from beginning to end twice
- Rinse hands
- Dry hands using a clean paper towel or air dry them. Do not dry hands on clothing

For more information, visit CDC’s Healthy Pets, Healthy People website (www.cdc.gov/healthypets) and CDC’s Handwashing website (www.cdc.gov/handwashing).
Know that animals carry germs that can make people sick

Never eat, drink, or put things into your mouth in animal areas

Older adults, pregnant women, and young children should be extra careful around animals

Wash your hands with soap and water right after visiting the animal area

How to be Safe Around Animals!
Aerosol Transmission: Droplets containing a disease agent are passed through the air from one infected animal to another susceptible animal. The ability of a pathogen to survive and be effectively transmitted by aerosol depends on many variables, including stocking density, temperature, ventilation, humidity and dust. Respiratory diseases, such as Influenza Virus, Rhinopneumonitis and other common respiratory viruses, can quickly spread through an event facility; often horses are exposed before it becomes apparent that an index horse is sick. Airborne diseases are the most difficult to contain and complete control is often not feasible, especially on premises holding frequent events with horses continually being moved in and out of barns. Suggested control measures include:

1. Decreased Stocking Density: Greater distance between horses and fewer horses in a confined air space decrease risk of disease transmission.
2. Dust Reduction: Dust and other airborne irritants can reduce an animal’s ability to clear respiratory pathogens, therefore resulting in respiratory disease. Ensure that ventilation systems and water sprinklers are working efficiently to decrease dust and airborne irritants.

Direct Contact Transmission: Direct exposure of a susceptible animal may occur when the disease agent directly touches an open wound, skin or mucus membranes of the nostrils, mouth or eyes. An infectious disease agent can be passed from an infected animal to a susceptible animal through contact with saliva, nose-to-nose contact, rubbing and biting. To prevent direct contact transmission:

1. Restrict Horse-to-Horse Contact: Solid stall walls and full door stalls limit direct contact with horses in adjacent stalls and horses passing in the barn aisle ways. Do not permit tying of horses next to each other on exhibit area fences or in communal areas, such as in wash racks.

Oral transmission: Oral transmissions of pathogens to the horse occur through the direct ingestion of contaminated feed or water and through oral contact by licking of objects contaminated with infectious disease agents. To avoid oral transmission of infectious disease agents:

1. Secure Feed Storage: Restrict access to feed by wildlife, birds, vermin, scavengers, dogs and cats, which may urinate, defecate or otherwise introduce disease. To prevent spoilage and mold growth, take appropriate measures to protect and store feed and hay from the effects of weather.

2. Evaluate Risk of Water Sources: Due to the inability to control water quality and prevent contamination with disease agents, surface water sources, such as streams, ponds and irrigation ditches, pose a significant disease risk. Contamination can be due to wildlife, fecal material, urine and environmental toxins. Due to the disease risks, use of surface water sources at events must be restricted. If communal water troughs must
Routes of Disease Transmission and Control Measures for Equine Events

be used during the event, routinely clean and disinfect the troughs.

Fomite Transmission (Indirect Contact): A fomite is an inanimate object that may be contaminated by an infectious organism and serve in their transmission. Virtually any object can serve as a fomite, including equipment, water buckets, tack, hoses, clothing, bedding, etc. Measures to limit fomite transmission include:

1. **Avoid Shared Equipment:** Ideally, each horse will have its own equipment, water bucket, tack and wipe rags. Clean and disinfect any shared equipment between uses. Dedicated supplies and equipment must remain in isolation areas for the treatment of sick horses.

2. **Traffic:** Vehicles and trailers can spread disease agents on contaminated tires, wheel wells and undercarriage; people can spread the disease agent on their clothing and shoes/boots. Restrict traffic flow patterns and designate parking areas to limit contamination and animal exposure.

Vector Transmission: An insect or tick acquires a disease agent from one animal and transmits it to another animal. Vector-borne diseases are those which involve the transmission of infectious disease agents by biological vectors, such as mosquitoes, ticks, fleas and flies. An effective vector control program includes:

1. **Treatment of Horses:** Direct treatment of horses with insecticide pour-ons or sprays is effective, but their effectiveness is of short duration and there are concerns about insect and tick resistance to the chemicals in these products. Some horses have skin sensitivities and have adverse reactions to the chemicals in insecticides. Based on these concerns, it may be difficult to enforce an insecticide treatment policy during the event, but insecticide application should be recommended.

2. **Treatment of Premises:** Application of insecticides on a premises is effective on small event grounds, but becomes inefficient on larger areas. Effectiveness of most products is dependent upon weather conditions; sunlight can break down some of the chemicals contained in the treatments and the ideal target air temperature for applications is 65-90°F. Strictly follow the product manufacturer guidelines on the label since inappropriate use can greatly reduce efficacy, can present a hazard to the animals/environment/humans and can lead to insect resistance. Consult a professional when developing a control plan.

3. **Separate Host and Vectors:** If insects and ticks cannot be eliminated through treatments, consider methods of separating the horses from the vectors. Where possible, eliminate horse access to areas where mosquitoes, flies and ticks reside. Fencing off areas of high insect and tick populations, such as wooded areas for ticks, or confining animals to buildings during peak periods of mosquito activity, such as dusk to dawn, may be effective vector control measures.

4. **Eliminate Insect Breeding Areas:** Elimination of standing water, especially wet, muddy areas, is an effective mosquito control measure. Regular removal of decaying organic matter aids in controlling the fly population on the premises. Decaying organic material includes spoiled feed, soiled bedding, and open manure piles.
Wildlife, Bird and Rodent Control Measures

Eliminate Openings for Rodents or Birds

- Seal any openings greater than ¼-½ inch in stalls, storage areas and food bins with a durable material.

- Use sealing material that wildlife, birds and rodents cannot easily penetrate by gnawing or pecking, such as concrete, brick, sheet metal, aluminum or wire mesh. Avoid use of plastic sheeting, wood or rubber sealing materials, which rodents can penetrate.

- Equip all drain pipes and floor drains with metal grates to prevent rodent entry into buildings.

- Place gravel around the stabling area to discourage rodents from burrowing into buildings.

Removal of Hiding, Nesting and Resting Sites

- Store all equipment in stabling area off the ground or on easily moveable racks to allow routine cleaning around and under equipment.

- Stack unopened grain sacks on raised pallets positioned with adequate spacing around them to allow inspection for signs of rodent activity.

- Maintain water level in troughs deep enough to prevent birds from standing in the water.

Eliminate Potential Food Sources

- Store open feed in sealed containers, preferably made of metal with tight fitting lids.

- Clean up spilled feed immediately.

- Empty trash cans daily.

Use of Rodents Traps and Bait

- Before the event, place rodent traps and baits around the premises to reduce the number of rodents. Set traps close to walls, in dark corners and behind objects, such as machinery, in any areas where there is evidence of rodent activity. Place rodent baits in areas not accessible to children or other animals.

- Use rodent baits according to the label instructions. Place rodent baits in areas protected from exposure to weather elements.

- Inspect rodent traps regularly and dispose of dead rodents promptly. Refresh rodent bait as necessary.

For additional guidance, contact a wildlife and pest control professional to assist with plan development.
Overview

Disease prevention at an equine event is typically easier and more cost-effective than addressing an outbreak situation; therefore, development and implementation of a biosecurity plan, which includes cleaning and disinfection (C&D) protocols, is essential for all equine events. Routine C&D protocols for a facility will differ from those necessary to control an infectious disease outbreak. C&D protocols will vary depending on the situation and the specific event.

Complex interactions influence the effectiveness of C&D protocols. Success of a C&D protocol depends upon the infectious disease agent, the various surfaces to be disinfected, the disinfectant, disinfectant concentration and surface contact time and environmental conditions.

Implementing a Cleaning and Disinfection Plan

There are four steps for an effective cleaning and disinfection plan: assessment, cleaning, washing and disinfecting. Train all employees on the proper implementation of the C&D protocols emphasizing thorough cleaning and safety. Clearly explain the C&D protocols in the training and post signs around the event venue to reinforce the training.

Assessment

An initial facility assessment will help determine the areas of disease risk that require cleaning and disinfection biosecurity measures. At an equine event, horses contact numerous surfaces, such as water buckets/troughs, equipment, fences and stall; therefore, consider all areas contacted by horses as contaminated and address in a C&D protocol.

Cleaning

The presence of organic material on surfaces can harbor infectious disease agents for extended periods of time and protect them from the action of chemical disinfectants. Research demonstrates that cleaning contaminated surfaces eliminates 90% of the bacteria on a surface. The goal of cleaning is to remove all organic material, such as manure, soiled bedding and dirt, since the presence of organic matter inactivates many disinfectants, making them ineffective.

Washing

After removal of organic matter, clean the surface completely with a detergent and rinse with a low pressure hose. Use of high pressure water (pressure washer) is not recommended for cleaning stalls since this distributes dirt and infectious agents into the air and onto adjacent surfaces. Manual scrubbing further reduces the number of microorganisms adhering to surfaces. Thorough rinsing is important because soaps and detergents can also inactivate many disinfectants. Allow surfaces to dry before application of the disinfectant.

Disinfectant Selection

A basis for disinfectant selection is finding the most useful, efficacious and cost-effective product. An ideal disinfectant is one that is broad spectrum, non-toxic, non-irritating, non-corrosive, relatively inexpensive and works in variable weather conditions. No available disinfectant is suitable for all situations. Selection of the proper disinfectant depends on the potential infectious disease agent(s), the type of surface to disinfect, weather conditions and product safety. Consult a veterinarian to determine the infectious disease agent(s) of concern.

For routine disinfection, a disinfectant with broad spectrum anti-microbial activity is appropriate. Disinfectants are classified by their chemical nature; each class of disinfectant has unique characteristics, toxicities, safety concerns and level of efficacy. Commercially available disinfectants are classified as alcohols, aldehydes, biguanides, halogens/hypochlorites, halogens/iodine compounds, oxidizing agents, phenols, and quaternary ammonium compounds. Carefully read and follow label instructions when using any chemical disinfectant.

The US Environmental Protection Agency (EPA) and the California Environmental Protection Agency (CalEPA) define disinfectants (antimicrobials) as pesticides. Be certain to use all EPA-registered antimicrobials in accordance with California worker safety regulations.
Cleaning and Disinfecting Recommendations for Equine Events

**Disinfectant Concentration**

Disinfectant concentration is critical for effectiveness against an organism; over dilution may render the product ineffective against the disease agent. Some disinfectants may be more efficacious at higher concentrations; however, higher disinfectant concentrations may pose a safety risk to personnel, animals, surfaces and/or the environment.

**Disinfectant Application**

Wipe, brush, spray or mist disinfectant solution on surfaces of objects or walls according to product label instructions. In general, 1:10 dilution of bleach to water is effective. However, in most stall situations, organic material cannot be completed eliminated, therefore it is necessary to use a disinfectant that has activity in the presence of organic materials, such as a phenolic (1 Stoke Environ® or SynPhenol-3®) or an accelerated hydrogen peroxide product (Intervention®). All products should be used in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations and label instructions. Soak brushes and other equipment in containers with disinfectant solution after use.

**Disinfectant Contact Time**

A critical step in the disinfection protocol is appropriate disinfectant contact time on the surfaces. Disinfectants vary in the contact time necessary to destroy or inactivate disease organisms. Carefully read and follow the product label for the minimum contact time for efficacy. To avoid surfaces drying out before the end of the optimal contact time, saturate the surfaces with the disinfectant.

**Disinfectant Stability and Storage**

Disinfectant storage influences the effectiveness of the product. Outdated or inactivated products are ineffective. Some disinfectants quickly lose stability after prepared for use or after storage for long periods of time. Heat and light may also inactivate certain disinfectants. To maximize stability and shelf life, store the stock concentration of the disinfectant in a cool, dark location and mix for use as necessary.

**Disinfectant Safety Precautions**

In general, most disinfectants cause irritation to the eyes, skin and or respiratory tract, so safety is a priority for all personnel using a product. Always review the product Material Safety Data Sheets (MSDS) to learn specific hazards and first aid information. Training on proper storage, mixing and application of disinfectants is essential; for some products this training is required by law. During the mixing and application processes, require use of personal protective equipment, such as gloves, masks and eye protection, by personnel.

**Environmental Considerations**

Environmental factors may impact the effectiveness of the C&D protocol. Factors to address in the plan include organic load, surface characteristics, temperature, weather, water quality and presence of other chemicals. In situations where removal of all organic matter is not possible, consider use of a product with some efficacy or residual activity in the presence of organic material. Porous, uneven, cracked or pitted surfaces (i.e., wooden stables and dirt floors) harbor microorganisms and require an increase in contact time and concentration of disinfectant. Air temperatures above 68°F are ideal for most disinfectants; however, elevated environmental temperatures may accelerate drying out of the surface decreasing the disinfectant efficacy.

C&D protocols should include evaluation of the drainage, runoff and biodegradability of the disinfectant. When selecting a disinfectant for use, consider the potential for runoff into creeks or ponds, since some agents, such as sodium carbonate, hypochlorites, and phenolics, are ecological hazards for plants and aquatic life.
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Characteristics of Selected Disinfectants</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Disinfectant Category</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Sample Trade Names</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mechanism of Action</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Advantages</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Disadvantages</strong></td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Precautions</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Vegetative Bacteria</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Mycobacteria</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Enveloped Viruses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Non-enveloped Viruses</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Spores</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>Fungi</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Efficacy with Organic Matter</strong></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><strong>Efficacy with Soap/ Detergents</strong></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Dear Exhibitor,

We have received your registration for EVENT X on EVENT DATE X. Protecting the health of your horse and other horses at this event is of the upmost importance to event management. This event is implementing biosecurity measures to ensure infectious disease agents are not introduced or spread at this event.

Regardless of whether they are participating in the event or not, all horses and livestock that enter the grounds will be subject to examination by event officials/designated representatives and/or State Animal Health official. Such examinations are to determine if the animal(s) is/are, has/have been infected/exposed, or are likely to be infected with, an infectious or contagious disease. If after such examination, an official believes the health condition of an animal will place other animals at risk, the officials may quarantine the animal(s) and others that may have been infected/exposed, or, if necessary, require movement of the animal(s) from the show grounds. All participants must agree to fully cooperate with examining officials and abide by their decisions/instructions. Failure to comply with officials shall be grounds for immediate expulsion of the participant from the grounds and potential disciplinary action(s) by the sponsoring organization and local/state or federal officials.

The equine health entry requirements for this event include: *(EVENT MANAGER TO CHOOSE ONE or MORE and DELETE OTHERS)*

a. Horses displaying obvious signs of clinical disease, such as fever, abnormal nasal discharge, consistent frequent coughing, neurologic signs of ataxia or significant hind limb weakness are not permitted to enter the event grounds.

b. **Event No Fever Policy**:
   i. Each horse entering the premises must have documentation demonstrating a record of body temperature readings with none above 102°F for a designated time period before arrival at the event premises. *(For example, 72 hours)*
   ii. Show officials will obtain a body temperature of all horses at the time of arrival to the event premises and all horses will be subject to periodic inspection by event officials during the event.
   iii. Owner/agents will monitor and document on a log the body temperature of their horse(s) ___X___ times a day during the event.

c. **Health Certification Policy**
   i. Owner/agents must present to event officials at the time of arrival to the event premises, a Certificate of Veterinary Inspection (health certificate), written within ___X___ hours (i.e., seventy-two (72) hours) of arrival to the event premises.

d. **Event Participation Declaration**: *(See Appendix F for Sample Event Participation Declaration )
   i. Owners/agents must sign a health certification statement verifying that the horse(s) has/have been healthy with no sign of infectious disease for the preceding five (5) days and a body temperature below 102°F during the ___X___ hours (i.e., 72 hours) before arrival at the event premises.
ii. Owner/agents must provide event officials with the address of the premises where each horse was located immediately before arrival at the event and the address of the intended premises of destination for each horse following departure from the event premises.

In addition to the above entry requirement, the following biosecurity measures are recommended:

- Dogs are not permitted on the event premises or All dogs on the event premises must be kept on a leash
- Limit horse-to-horse contact
- Limit horse-to-human-to-horse contact
- Avoid sharing of equipment, to include tack, water buckets, brushes, etc.
- Avoid use of communal water troughs
- Avoid submerging end of water hoses in water buckets
- Do not allow horses to drink directly from a water hose
- Avoid tying horses to fences or gates near the competition area
- Cover all feed and hay to prevent access by vermin, birds or other animals
- Monitor your horse frequently for signs of disease during the event
- Immediately report any sick horse(s) to show management
- Thoroughly clean and disinfect all equipment before use at the home premises
- Isolate and monitor all animals upon return to the home premises.

In the event of an emergency or infectious disease incident at the event, all participants and horses will remain at the venue until event management provides clearance for departure from the event premises. In the case of infectious disease event, event officials will evaluate individual horse disease exposure risk and provide owner/agents with follow up disease monitoring instructions. In the event movement restrictions are put in place, each owner/agent is responsible for the care and maintenance of their horse(s) on the premises.

We appreciate your compliance with event management efforts to maintain biosecurity at the upcoming event.

Sincerely,

XXXXXXXXX
Event Manager
STOP

Movement Restrictions In Effect
Exposed Horse Release Assessment

Part 1: - Owner/Agent

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horse Name</th>
<th>Stall # at Event</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Owner/Agent Name</td>
<td>Contact Number</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Horse Hauler</td>
<td>Date of Arrival</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>List Other Horse(s) in Trailer</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

List of Classes or Events Horse Participated in

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event Name</th>
<th>Ring /Event Location</th>
<th>Comments</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
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</tbody>
</table>

Communal Area Use

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Wash Rack</th>
<th>Yes/No</th>
<th>If Yes, Date of Use</th>
<th>If Yes, Specify Location</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Exercise Area</td>
<td></td>
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<td></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trails</td>
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<tr>
<td>Water Sources</td>
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</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Destination Address: ____________________________
Destination Contact: ____________________________
Person: ____________________________ Number: ____________________________

Destination Assessment: Answers of “No” signify increased risk for disease spread

Can you isolate the horse for 2 weeks with no direct contact with other horses? _______________________________________
Can the horse be separated from other horses by a distance of more than 30 feet? _______________________________________
Can you take and record the horse’s temperature twice a day? _______________________________________
Can you monitor the horse daily for clinical signs of disease? _______________________________________
Can you provide and require disposable gloves and foot coverings for stall entry? _______________________________________
Can you designate a separate person to handle this horse and no other horse(s)? _______________________________________
Can you arrange for the feeding of this horse and cleaning of the stall to be last? _______________________________________

YES/NO
Exposed Horse Release Assessment

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Part 2: Event Official Assessment

Exposure Risk: Answers of “Yes” signify increased risk of disease spread

Yes/No

Is this horse showing clinical sign(s) of disease?

Did this horse have direct contact with an infected/sick horse in the stabling area?

Did this horse have direct contact with infected/sick horse in any common area?

Did this horse have direct contact with infected/sick horse being trailered to this event?

Did this horse compete in the same events/classes/competitions as an infected/sick horse?

---

General Guidelines

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Low-Risk Horse</th>
<th>No known exposure at event</th>
<th>Release: minimal risk; recommend monitoring at destination</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Medium-Risk Horse</td>
<td>Potential exposure during stabling and/or competition</td>
<td>Release if adequate biosecurity measures are available at destination; recommend monitoring body temperature of horse at destination location for fourteen (14) days</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>High-Risk Horse</td>
<td>Known direct contact</td>
<td>Isolate on site with possible testing before release and assessment before allowing movement from the event premises</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Release Decision (Date and Initial Final Decision)

Release Low-Risk: Recommend Monitoring

Release Medium-Risk: Recommend monitoring temperature for 14 days

High-Risk: Deny release; remain on event premises for re-evaluation

---

Departure Date

Departure Time

Release Instructions

Initials
How to Set Up a Disease Isolation Unit at a Farm or Horse Show

June 2011

UC Davis
Veterinary Medicine
Center for Equine Health
How to Set Up a Disease Isolation Unit at a Farm or Horse Show

A horse with an infectious disease should be isolated from other horses to prevent the spread of infection. It is also important to prevent exposure by indirect contact from those handling an infected horse and spreading the infection to other horses via touching, equipment and so forth. Isolation can occur by stall confinement if the stall is secure and the horse is not in contact with others that walk by or are housed next to the horse. Often housing at shows is in tight quarters and contact can occur, so extreme care and vigilance in control of these isolation units are required.

If a horse has a fever and neurological signs that would suggest EHV-1 infection, it may be carrying high levels of the virus and become a primary source of spread. The horse should immediately be moved to an isolation area, preferably off site.

Any horses that were adjacent to the infected patient that has been moved out should be restricted in their movements and have their temperatures taken twice daily until the nature of the infection is determined. A perimeter and quarantine of that focal area of the barn should be instituted and access to and from the area limited. Horses in that area should be exercised at times when other horses are not in the arena or area. The length of the movement-restriction period will depend on whether other horses develop a fever during the next 7 to 10 days. The end of the quarantine period will be determined by the last horse to develop fever or clinical signs of disease, supplemented by PCR testing as appropriate.

An isolation barn that is effective has these characteristics:

- It is well separated from other barns and main horse traffic contact.
- It can be contained. Movement by people in and out can be regulated and controlled.
- Each stall is isolated and prevents direct contact with horses adjacent to each other.
- It has cleanable surfaces, including walls and flooring (mats). Use of liquid laundry detergent is useful in stalls and trailers with large volumes of water. A 10% bleach solution is a good general disinfectant if it is changed and replenished once or twice a day. Remember, bleach is inactivated by organic material and direct sunlight. Other commercial disinfectants can be obtained through your veterinarian.
- It is reserved ONLY for use by infectious disease suspects and is not used by other horses at any time.
- It has water buckets and separate equipment (wheelbarrows, pitchforks, bedding, etc.) used ONLY by the isolation unit.
- It has a sink for handwashing and treatment area. Space must be supplied for storage of things needed for biosecurity such as gloves, disposable coveralls, boots, disinfectant, footbath stations (rubber tubs), and garbage collection and holding for disposables used on the horses. This can be another stall converted into a storage area.
- A person to oversee the isolation stall is designated. This individual should have prior training in biosecurity. Their responsibility is to ensure that all activities meet with the biosecurity plan outlined for the facility.
- In an ideal situation, an isolation facility would be equipped with an overhead beam or other means for lifting or supporting a down horse, similar to the UC Davis Large Animal Lift (www.vmth.ucdavis.edu/home/VERT/LART/lal.html).
- The designated biosecurity supervisor ensures that people allowed to enter the facility follow appropriate sanitation measures: Rubber boots are dipped in a prescribed foot bath; disposable or dedicated coveralls are used only for one horse stall; disposable gloves are worn; and a treatment coat is worn over the reusable coveralls. If there is contamination of the caregiver occurs, the caregiver must shower and change clothes before touching other horses.
- Hands are washed for 60 seconds (sing "Happy Birthday" twice at normal tempo) before entering or leaving the isolation area. Use disposable towels and leave in a covered waste container at the site of handwashing.
- A perimeter is set up around the stall area to limit vehicular traffic and entry. This perimeter could be designated with ropes, fencing used for construction sites, and so forth. Random access should be restricted, with only one entry and exit to the area.
- There is appropriate lighting.
Equipment Needed for Setting Up An Isolation Barn

- Treatment carts or smocks
- Painter’s disposable coveralls
- Disposable gloves
- Rubber boots
- Foot bath containers
- Garbage bags
- Garbage cans with secure lids
- Disposable plastic shoe covers
- Thermometer for each horse
- Equipment for each horse (drugs in sealed plastic container for that horse, stomach tube, twitch, lip chain, etc.)
Equine Event Isolation Protocol Guidance

General Recommendations

- Secure restricted isolation area; only allow entry and exit by designated trained personnel.
- If owners are to enter isolation area, train on appropriate biosecurity measures before allowing access and monitor their visits.
- Eliminate vehicle and animal traffic in the restricted isolation area.
- Minimize onsite pests, including vermin, birds and insects.
- Restrict pets and all other animals from access to the isolation and adjoining area.
- Deliver all feed, equipment and supplies to an area adjacent to the isolation area and hand deliver to the entry of the isolation area as needed.
- Horse(s) in isolation area should remain in the stall. If horse(s) must be taken out of stall, obtain permission from the onsite veterinarian and event management before moving horse(s). Clean the feet of the horse(s) before movement and monitor movements.

Hand Washing Protocol

1. Hold a clean, freshly-laundered drying towel or disposable paper towels under arm for use after washing hands.
2. Ideally, use warm or hot running water.
3. Apply antibacterial soap and thoroughly wash all hand surfaces, including the wrists, palms and backs of hands.
4. Vigorously rub all lathered surfaces together for twenty (20) seconds.
5. For complete cleaning, use a nailbrush to clean fingers and under fingernails.
6. Rinse well in a flowing stream of water.
7. Hands that are visibly soiled require additional time to clean properly.
8. When drying hands, begin at the fingertips and work toward elbows, patting, not rubbing, the skin with the towel.
9. Use the towel to cover the faucet when turning off.

Entry into Isolation Stall

1. Prepare supplies and equipment you need.
2. Wash hands before entering the area: frequent hand washing is the most important component in prevention of disease agent spread.
3. Wear designated disposable footwear, coveralls and gloves. If not wearing disposable coveralls, launder worn clothing separate from other items after use.
4. Use disposable plastic boot covers or rubber footwear; if using rubber footwear, scrub thoroughly with a boot brush and submerge footwear in a disinfectant footbath when entering the area.
5. Place a bleach solution foot bath outside the stall and step in the footbath before entering the stall.
6. Each horse should have a thermometer for monitoring the body temperature; if sharing a thermometer for horses, clean and disinfect the thermometer between uses.

Exit from Isolation Stall

1. Step in bleach solution foot bath when exiting stall. Organic material will inactivate some disinfectants, so change footbath solution when contaminated with organic material and when disinfectant expires.
2. Remove designated protective wear (footwear, coveralls and gloves) just before exiting the isolation stall. Remove gloves last, pulling them off from the inside without touching the outside of the gloves.
3. Bag all disposable protective wear for appropriate disposal; Bag all reusable protective wear for immediate laundering.
4. Blow nose to remove any potential infectious disease organism.
5. Immediately wash hands or use an appropriate alcohol-based hand sanitizer.
6. Exit isolation area.
7. Clean organic material from all equipment before applying a disinfectant; follow manufacturer recommendations for product contact time.
8. Ideally, individuals departing the isolation area will shower and change clothes. At a minimum, change clothing and footwear.
LIST OF REPORTABLE CONDITIONS FOR ANIMALS AND ANIMAL PRODUCTS*

Any licensed veterinarian, any person operating a diagnostic laboratory, or any person who has been informed, recognizes or should recognize, by virtue of education, experience, or occupation, that any animal or animal product is or may be affected by, has been exposed to, or may be transmitting or carrying any of the following conditions, must be report that information.

Any animal disease not known to exist in the United States, any disease for which a control program exists, or any unexplained increase in the number of diseased animals or deaths must be reported. Any conditions caused by exposure to toxic substances that have or may have the potential to be a public health, animal health, or food safety threat must be reported within 24 hours.

EMERGENCY CONDITIONS – Report to AHB or VS Employee within 24 Hours of Discovery
Redding 530-225-2140, Modesto 209-491-9350, Tulare 559-685-3500, Ontario 909-947-4462,
Headquarters 916-900-5002, or VS at 1-877-741-3690

MULTIPLE SPECIES
- Anthrax (Bacillus anthracis)
- Crimean Congo Haemorrhagic Fever
- Foot-and-mouth disease
- Glanders (Farcy) [Burkholderia mallei (formerly Pseudomonas mallei)]
- Heartwater [Ehrlichia ruminantium (formerly Cowdria ruminantium)]
- Livestock exposed to toxic substances, which may threaten public health
- Rabies of livestock
- Screwworm myiasis (Cochliomyia hominivorax or Chrysomya bezziana)
- Unexplained increase in dead or diseased animals

BOVINE
- African trypanosomiasis (Tsetse fly diseases)
- Bovine babesiosis (Cattle Tick Fever)
- Bovine spongiform encephalopathy
- Contagious bovine pleuropneumonia (Mycoplasma mycoides mycoides small colony)
- Foot-and-mouth disease
- Heartwater [Ehrlichia ruminantium (formerly Cowdria ruminantium)]
- Hemorrhagic septicemia (Pasteurella serotypes B:2 or E:2)
- Lumpy skin disease
- Malignant catarrhal fever (African type)
- Rift Valley fever
- Rinderpest
- Theileriosis (Theileria parva parva, or T. annulata)
- Vesicular stomatitis

CAPRINE/OVINE
- Contagious agalactia (Mycoplasma agalactiae)
- Contagious caprine pleuropneumonia (Mycoplasma capricolum capripneumoniae)
- Foot-and-mouth disease
- Heartwater [Ehrlichia ruminantium, formerly Cowdria ruminantium]
- Nairobi sheep disease
- Peste des petits ruminants (Goat plague)

PORCINE
- African swine fever
- Classical swine fever
- Foot-and-mouth disease
- Japanese encephalitis
- Nipah virus
- Swine vesicular disease
- Vesicular exanthema of swine virus (VESV)
- Vesicular stomatitis

AVIAN SPECIES
- Avian influenza (H5, H7)
- Exotic Newcastle disease
- Turkey rhinotracheitis (Avian metapneumovirus)

EQUINE
- African horse sickness
- Dourine (Trypanosoma equiperdum)
- Glanders (Farcy) [Burkholderia mallei (formerly Pseudomonas mallei)]
- Hendra virus (Equine morbillivirus)
- Japanese encephalitis
- Surra (Trypanosoma evansi)
- Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis
- Vesicular stomatitis

CERVIDS/LAGOMORPHS/CAMELIDS
- Viral hemorrhagic disease of rabbits (calicivirus)

Remember to call if you see: Vesicles, Unusual or Unexplained Illness, CNS signs, Mucosal Diseases, Hemorrhagic Septicemias, Unusual Larvae in Wounds, Unusual (Ornate) Ticks, High Morbidity or Mortality

*Pursuant to Section 9101 of the California Food and Agricultural Code and Title 9 Code of Federal Regulations Section 161.4(f)
### REGULATED CONDITIONS – Report to AHB or VS Employee within Two Days of Discovery

**MULTIPLE SPECIES**
- Tularemia

**BOVINE**
- Bovine brucellosis (*Brucella abortus*)
- Bovine tuberculosis (*Mycobacterium bovis*)
- Cattle scabies (multiple types)
- Trichomonosis (*Trichomonas fetus*)

**CAPRINE/OVINE**
- Caprine and ovine brucellosis (excluding *Brucella ovis*)
- Scrapie
- Sheep scabies (Body mange) (*Psoroptes ovis*)

**PORCINE**
- Porcine brucellosis (*Brucella suis*)
- Pseudorabies (Aujeszyk’s disease)

**AVIAN SPECIES**
- Ornithosis (Psittacosis or avian chlamydiosis) (*Chlamydomphila psittaci*)
- Pulmonary disease (Fowl typhoid) (*Salmonella gallinarum* and *S. pullorum*)

**EQUINE**
- Contagious equine metritis (*Taylorella equigenitalis*)
- Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern and Western equine encephalitis)
- Equine infectious anemia
- Epizootic Lymphangitis
- Equine piroplasmosis (*Babesia caballi* or *Babesia equi*)

**CAPRINE/OVINE**
- Caprine and ovine brucellosis (excluding *Brucella ovis*)

**PORCINE**
- Porcine cysticercosis (*Taenia solium* in humans)
- Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome
- Transmissible gastroenteritis (coronavirus)
- Trichinellosis (*Trichinella spiralis*)

**EQUINE**
- Avian infectious bronchitis
- Avian infectious laryngotracheitis
- Mycoplasmosis (*Mycoplasma synoviae* and *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*)
- Duck viral hepatitis
- Fowl cholera (*Pasteurella multocida*)
- Infectious bursal disease (Gumboro disease)
- Marek’s disease

**EQUINE**
- Equine coital exanthema (Horsepox)
- Equine influenza
- Equine rhinopneumonitis [Equine herpesvirus-1 or 4 (excluding EHM)]
- Equine viral arteritis
- West Nile Virus

**CERVIDS/LAGOMORPHS/CAMELIDS**
- Camelpox in camels
- Hemorrhagic diseases of deer (bluetongue, adenovirus, and epizootic hemorrhagic disease)
- Myxomatosis in commercial rabbits
- VESV-related caliciviruses

**FISH, AMPHIBIAN, CRUSTACEAN, BEE, AND MOLLUSK**
- The list is compatible with the OIE list.

### MONITORED CONDITIONS – Report by Monthly Summaries from Diagnostic Facilities

**MULTIPLE SPECIES**
- Avian tuberculosis of livestock (*Mycobacterium avium*)
- Echinococcosis/Hydatidosis (*Echinococcus* species)
- Epizootic Hemorrhagic disease (EHD)
- Johne’s disease (Paratuberculosis) (*Mycobacterium avium aratuberculosis*)
- Leishmaniosis
- Leptospirosis
- Novel H1N1 influenza virus

**BOVINE**
- Anaplasmosis (*Anaplasma marginale* or *A. centrale*)
- Blueteugone
- Bovine genital campylobacteriosis (*Campylobacter fetus venerealis*)
- Bovine viral diarrhea
- Enzootic bovine leukosis (Bovine leukemia virus)
- Infectious bovine rhinotracheitis (Bovine herpesvirus-1)
- Johne’s disease (Paratuberculosis) (*Mycobacterium avium aratuberculosis*)
- Malignant catarrhal fever (North American)
- Q Fever (*Coxiella burnetii*)

**CAPRINE/OVINE**
- Blueteugone
- *Brucella ovis* (Ovine epididymitis)
- Caprine arthritis/encephalitis
- Enzootic abortion of ewes (Ovine chlamydiosis) (*Chlamydomphila abortus*)
- Johne’s disease (Paratuberculosis) (*Mycobacterium avium paratuberculosis*)
- Maedi-Visna (Ovine progressive pneumonia)
- Ovine pulmonary adenomatosis
- Q Fever (*Coxiella burnetii*)

**PORCINE**
- Novel H1N1 influenza virus
- Porcine cysticercosis (*Taenia solium* in humans)
- Porcine reproductive and respiratory syndrome
- Transmissible gastroenteritis (coronavirus)
- Trichinellosis (*Trichinella spiralis*)

**AVIAN SPECIES**
- Avian infectious bronchitis
- Avian infectious laryngotracheitis
- Mycoplasmosis (*Mycoplasma synoviae* and *Mycoplasma gallisepticum*)
- Duck viral hepatitis
- Fowl cholera (*Pasteurella multocida*)
- Infectious bursal disease (Gumboro disease)
- Marek’s disease

**EQUINE**
- Equine coital exanthema (Horsepox)
- Equine influenza
- Equine rhinopneumonitis [Equine herpesvirus-1 or 4 (excluding EHM)]
- Equine viral arteritis
- West Nile Virus

**CERVIDS/LAGOMORPHS/CAMELIDS**
- Camelpox in camels
- Hemorrhagic diseases of deer (bluetongue, adenovirus, and epizootic hemorrhagic disease)
- Myxomatosis in commercial rabbits
- VESV-related caliciviruses

**FISH, AMPHIBIAN, CRUSTACEAN, BEE, AND MOLLUSK**
- The list is compatible with the OIE list.

### WHERE TO REPORT:

Report either to your closest Department of Food and Agriculture, Animal Health Branch (AHB) District Office: Redding 530-225-2140, Modesto 209-491-9350, Tulare 559-685-3500, Ontario 909-947-4462, the AHB Headquarters at 1220 N Street, Room A-107, Sacramento, California 95814, telephone 916-900-5002, facsimile 916-900-5333, email to cavet@cdfa.ca.gov, website at [www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah](http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/ah), or the USDA, APHIS, Veterinary Services (VS) office toll free at 1-877-741-3690.

List of Reportable Conditions for Animals and Animal Products / Est. August 2011

State of California - CDFA – Animal Health Branch
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>STATE VETERINARIAN OFFICES</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>ALABAMA</strong></td>
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<tr>
<td><strong>ALASKA</strong></td>
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<td><strong>ARIZONA</strong></td>
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<td>Imperial County</td>
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<td>Inyo County</td>
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</table>
Kings County  
(559) 589-0482  
330 Campus Drive  
Hanford, CA 93230  
http://www.countyofkings.com/Health/phn.html

Lake County  
(707) 262-4280  
922 Bevins Court  
Lakeport, CA 95453  
http://health.co.lake.ca.us/Communicable_Disease.htm

Lassen County  
(530) 251-2668  
1445 Paul Bunyan Road  
Susanville, CA 96130  
http://www.lassencounty.gov/dept/health_social/PublicHealth.asp

Long Beach City of  
CD/STD: (562) 570-4302;  
TB: (562) 570-4234 or  
(562) 570-4235  
2525 Grand Avenue  
Long Beach, CA 90815  

Los Angeles County  
CD: (888) 397-3993;  
HIV/AIDS: (213) 744-6160;  
STDs: (213) 744-3106  
CD: Morbidity Unit, 313 N Figueroa St, #117, LA, CA 90012;  
HIV Epidemiology, 600 S Commonwealth Ave, Ste 1260, LA, CA 90005;  
TB Control, 2515 S Grand Ave, Rm 507, LA, CA 90007;  
STD Prgm, 2615 S Grand Ave, Rm 500, LA, CA 90007  
http://lapublichealth.org/acd/cdrs.htm  
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/hiv/hivreporting.htm  
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/tb/tbreporting.htm  
http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/std/providers.htm#reporting

Madera County  
(559) 674-7262  
14215 Road 28  
Madera, CA 93638  
http://www.madera-county.com/publichealth/cdc.html

Marin County  
CD: (415) 473-6002;  
TB/STD: (415) 499-6855  
CD: (415) 473-7805;  
TB: (415) 499-6867;  
STDs: (415) 499-6944  
899 Northgate Dr, Ste 100  
San Rafael, CA 94903  
http://www.co.marin.ca.us/depts/HH/main/HS/publichealth/PHadmin.cfm

Mariposa County  
(209) 966-4929  
966-3689  
P.O. Box 5  
Mariposa, CA 95338  
http://www.mariposacounty.org/

Mendocino County  
(707) 472-2714  
(707) 472-2713;  
After Hours: (707) 272-8035  
CD Control  
1120 S Dora St  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hhsa/chs/nursing

Merced County  
(209) 381-1034  
(209) 381-1020;  
After Hours: (209) 725-7011  
CD Control  
1120 S Dora St  
Ukiah, CA 95482  
http://www.co.mendocino.ca.us/hhsa/chs/nursing

Modoc County  
(530) 233-6332  
441 N. Main  
Alturas, CA 96101  
http://www.modoccohealthservices.com/id35.html

Mono County  
(760) 924-1831  
P.O. Box 329  
Mammoth Lakes, CA 93546  
http://www.monohealth.com/publichealth/phcommunicablediseases.html

Monterey County  
CD: (831) 754-6682;  
TB: (831) 796-1272  
(831) 754-4521;  
After Hours: (831) 755-5100  
Ask for the Health Officer on call.  
1270 Natividad Road  
Salinas, CA 94559  

Napa County  
(707) 299-4479  
(707) 299-1499;  
After Hours: (707) 265-3131  
2344 Old Sonoma Rd, Bldg G  
Napa, CA 94559  
Can submit reports by email to: CDReports@co.napa.ca.us  
Website:  
http://www.countyofnapa.org/Pages/DepartmentContent.aspx?id=4294969143

Nevada County  
(530) 271-0836; or  
(530) 271-0894  
500 Crown Point Circle, #110  
Grass Valley, CA 95341  
Can access page via www.mynevadacounty.com/ph/index.cfm?ccs=1209&cs=4295  
Click Communicable Disease Prevention link (left), then Reporting Communicable Disease link in center.

Orange County  
(714) 834-8196  
(714) 834-8180  
P.O. Box 6128  
Santa Ana, CA 92706-0128  
http://www.ochealthinfo.com/epi/for-phys.htm

Pasadena City of  
(626) 744-6115  
1845 North Fair Oaks Ave  
Pasadena, CA 91103  
http://www.ci.pasadena.ca.us/publichealth/disease_prevention/cdc/cdc_prov_home.asp

Placer County  
(530) 886-2945  
11484 “B” Avenue  
Auburn, CA 95603  

Plumas County  
(530) 283-6110  
270 County Hospital Rd, Ste 111  
Quincy, CA 95971  

Riverside County;  
(951) 385-5107  
P.O. Box 7600  
Riverside, CA 92513-7600  
http://www.rivco-diseasecontrol.org/guidelin/contents.htm
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>County</th>
<th>Phone Numbers</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Website</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Riverside County; Indio; Eastern Co.</td>
<td>(760) 863-8183</td>
<td>Disease Control Branch 47-923 Oasis Indio, CA 92201</td>
<td><a href="http://www.rivco-diseasecontrol.org/guidelin/contents.htm">http://www.rivco-diseasecontrol.org/guidelin/contents.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sacramento County</td>
<td>(916) 875-4069</td>
<td>7001 A East Parkway, Suite 600, Sacramento, CA 95823</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sacdphs.org/department/diseasecontrol/reportable_diseases.htm">http://www.sacdphs.org/department/diseasecontrol/reportable_diseases.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>San Benito County</td>
<td>(831) 637-9073</td>
<td>439 Fourth Street Hollister, CA 95023</td>
<td>[<a href="http://www.commanderocgov.org/publichealth/health">http://www.commanderocgov.org/publichealth/health</a> dışında/programs/phd.htm](<a href="http://www.commanderocgov.org/publichealth/health">http://www.commanderocgov.org/publichealth/health</a> dışında/programs/phd.htm)</td>
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<tr>
<td>San Diego County</td>
<td>Epi: (858) 715-6458; TB: (619) 692-5516 or (800) 722-4794</td>
<td>1700 Pacific Highway San Diego, CA 92101</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Francisco County</td>
<td>(415) 554-2848; TB: (415) 206-4565 or (415) 206-4567; STD: (415) 431-4628</td>
<td>101 Grove Street, Room 408 San Francisco, CA 94102</td>
<td><a href="http://sfcdcp.org/diseasereporting.html">http://sfcdcp.org/diseasereporting.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>San Joaquin County</td>
<td>(209) 468-8222</td>
<td>PO Box 2009 Stockton, CA 95201-2009</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sjcphs.org/disease/disease_control_reporting.htm">http://www.sjcphs.org/disease/disease_control_reporting.htm</a></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>San Luis Obispo County</td>
<td>(805) 781-5543</td>
<td>2191 Johnson Ave San Luis Obispo, CA 93401</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/portal/site/phd/agencychp?path=%2Fv7%2FPublic%20Health%20Department%20%26%20Sexual%20Health%20Programs%2FDisease%20Reporting">http://www.co.sanmateo.ca.us/portal/site/phd/agencychp?path=%2Fv7%2FPublic%20Health%20Department%20%26%20Sexual%20Health%20Programs%2FDisease%20Reporting</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>San Mateo County</td>
<td>(805) 681-4069</td>
<td>Admin: 300 N San Antonio Rd B-8, Santa Barbara, CA 93110; CD: 345 Camino Del Remedio, Santa Barbara, CA 93110</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sbcphd.org/dcp/dc/cmr.html">http://www.sbcphd.org/dcp/dc/cmr.html</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Clara County</td>
<td>(408) 885-3709</td>
<td>976 Lenzen Avenue, Suite 1700 San Jose, CA 95126</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/phd/agencychp?path=%2Fv7%2FPublic%20Health%20Department%20%26%20Sexual%20Health%20Programs%2FDisease%20Reporting">http://www.sccgov.org/portal/site/phd/agencychp?path=%2Fv7%2FPublic%20Health%20Department%20%26%20Sexual%20Health%20Programs%2FDisease%20Reporting</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Santa Cruz County</td>
<td>(831) 454-5049</td>
<td>1060 Emeline Avenue Santa Cruz, CA 95060</td>
<td><a href="http://www.santacruzhealth.org/phealth/cd/3reportingguidelines.htm">http://www.santacruzhealth.org/phealth/cd/3reportingguidelines.htm</a></td>
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<td>Shasta County</td>
<td>(408) 225-5074</td>
<td>2650 Breslauer Way Redding, CA 96001</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/hhsa_index/Community_partnerships/med_professionals/report_cd.aspx">http://www.co.shasta.ca.us/index/hhsa_index/Community_partnerships/med_professionals/report_cd.aspx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Siskiyou County</td>
<td>Personal Health: (530) 841-4094; Env Health: (530) 841-4076</td>
<td>Attn: CD Controller 806 S. Main St. Yreka, CA 96097</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/PHS/phs.aspx">http://www.co.siskiyou.ca.us/PHS/phs.aspx</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sonoma County</td>
<td>(707) 565-4565</td>
<td>625 Fifth Street Santa Rosa, CA 95404-4428</td>
<td><a href="http://www.sonomacounty.org/health/ph/diseasecontrol/reportable_diseases.htm">http://www.sonomacounty.org/health/ph/diseasecontrol/reportable_diseases.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Sutter County</td>
<td>(530) 822-7223</td>
<td>1445 Veterans Memorial Circle Yuba City, CA 95993</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.sutter.ca.us/doc/government/depts/ph/ph_public_health">http://www.co.sutter.ca.us/doc/government/depts/ph/ph_public_health</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tehama County 2008 Info</td>
<td>(530) 527-0362</td>
<td>1860 Walnut St Red Bluff, CA 96080</td>
<td><a href="http://www.co.tehama.ca.us">http://www.co.tehama.ca.us</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Trinity County</td>
<td>(530) 623-1297</td>
<td>P.O. Box 1470 Weaverville, CA 96093</td>
<td><a href="http://www.trinitycounty.org/Departments/HHS/health.htm">http://www.trinitycounty.org/Departments/HHS/health.htm</a></td>
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<tr>
<td>Tuolumne County</td>
<td>(209) 533-7406 (209) 533-7401; After Hours: (209) 533-8055</td>
<td>20111 Cedar Road North Sonora, CA 95370</td>
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</tr>
<tr>
<td>Ventura County</td>
<td>CD: (805) 981-5200; TB (805) 385-9145</td>
<td>2240 E Gonzales Rd, Ste 220 Oxnard, CA 93036</td>
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<tr>
<td>Vernon City of</td>
<td>(323) 588-4320 (323) 583 8811; After Hours: (323) 587 5171</td>
<td>4305 Santa Fe Avenue Vernon, CA 90058</td>
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<tr>
<td>Yuba County</td>
<td>(530) 749-6397 (530) 749-6366</td>
<td>5730 Packard Ave, Ste 100 Marysville, CA 95901</td>
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<tr>
<td>Washoe County, NV</td>
<td>(775) 328-3764 (775) 328-2447</td>
<td>P.O. Box 1130 Reno, NV 89520</td>
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**Exposed Horse Release Assessment**

**Part 1: - Owner/Agent**

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Horse Name</th>
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<table>
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<tr>
<th>Owner/Agent Name</th>
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<th>Horse Hauler</th>
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List Other Horse(s) in Trailer

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**List of Classes or Events Horse Participated in**

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<thead>
<tr>
<th>Date</th>
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<th>Ring /Event Location</th>
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**Communal Area Use**

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<tr>
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<th>If Yes, Specify location</th>
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<td>Date of Use</td>
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- Wash Rack
- Exercise Area
- Trails
- Water Sources

**Destination Address:**

<table>
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<th>Destination Contact</th>
<th>Contact Number</th>
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</table>

**Destination Assessment:** Answers of “No” signify increased risk for disease spread

- Can you isolate the horse for 2 weeks with no direct contact with other horses? __________
- Can the horse be separated from other horses by a distance of more than 30 feet? __________
- Can you take and record the horse’s temperature twice a day? __________
- Can you monitor the horse daily for clinical signs of disease? __________
- Can you provide and require disposable gloves and foot coverings for stall entry? __________
- Can you designate a separate person to handle this horse and no other horse(s)? __________
- Can you arrange for the feeding of this horse and cleaning of the stall to be last? __________
Exposed Horse Release Assessment

FOR OFFICIAL USE ONLY

Part 2: Event Official Assessment

Exposure Risk: Answers of “Yes” signify increased risk of disease spread

YES/NO

Is this horse showing clinical sign(s) of disease?

Did this horse have direct contact with an infected/ sick horse in the stabling area?

Did this horse have direct contact with infected/ sick horse in any common area?

Did this horse have direct contact with infected/ sick horse being trailered to this event?

Did this horse compete in the same events/classes/competitions as an infected /sick horse?

General Guidelines

| Low-Risk Horse | No known exposure at event | Release: minimal risk; recommend monitoring at destination |
| Medium-Risk Horse | Potential exposure during stabling and/or competition | Release if adequate biosecurity measures are available at destination; recommend monitoring body temperature of horse at destination location for fourteen (14) days |
| High-Risk Horse | Known direct contact | Isolate on site with possible testing before release and assessment before allowing movement from the event premises |

Release Decision ( Date and Initial Final Decision)

Release Low-Risk: Recommend Monitoring

Release Medium-Risk: Recommend monitoring temperature for 14 days

High-Risk: Deny release; remain on event premises for re-evaluation

Departure Date

Departure Time

Release Instructions

Initials
Cleaning and Disinfection of a Horse Trailer

1. Cleaning and disinfecting a horse trailer is ideally done within twenty four (24) hours of shipping the horse. If the trailered horse was sick, personnel should wear protective clothing, footwear and gloves while cleaning the trailer.

2. Completely remove all feed, bedding and manure. Use a broom to sweep the small-particle materials into a pile and remove for disposal.

3. Remove all detachable fittings, such as leads and haynets. Wash these separately.

4. Remove floor mats to be cleaned and disinfected separately outside of the trailer.

5. Gently rinse the inside of the trailer floors and the walls with low pressure water (no nozzles). Manually wash all visible loose organic matter down the walls. Use of high pressure water (pressure washer) is not recommended for cleaning since it distributes dirt and infectious agents into the air and beyond to adjacent surfaces.

6. Use a foaming soap agent and a stiff-bristle brush that can fit into the corners to scrub the inside of the trailer, all walls, the ceiling, the floor and the loading ramp.

7. Scrub from the TOP DOWN in the following order:
   a. Scrub each of the walls thoroughly with a brush.
   b. Scrub an 18 to 24-inch wide area from top to bottom.
   c. Move 18 to 24 inches to the right on the wall and scrub another 18 to 24-inch wide section, slightly overlapping the previously scrubbed area.
   d. Continue this process until you have scrubbed all surfaces, including the inside of the doors, the floor and ramp.

8. Use an appropriate size brush to clean specific trailer areas, such as gate hinges, between pipes, chest and tail bars, latches and ledges.

9. Gently rinse off the foaming soap agent. Surfaces with manure, blood or dirt still “caked on” them should be rescrubbed with foaming agent until clean, since organic matter interferes with the effectiveness of disinfectants.

10. Rinse out any particulate matter left in the trailer after scrubbing.

11. Finally, disinfect all surfaces within the trailer:
   a. Spray all interior surfaces with a disinfectant solution and use a stiff-bristle brush and scrubbing pattern on all surfaces. Also spray the bleach solution on hayracks, pipes, latches, gate hinges and ledges.

In general, 1:10 dilution of bleach to water is effective. However, in most stall situations, organic material cannot be completed eliminated, therefore it is necessary to use a disinfectant that has activity in the presence of organic materials, such as a phenolic (1 Stoke Environ® or SynPhenol-3®) or an accelerated hydrogen peroxide product (Intervention®). All products should be used in accordance with manufacturer’s recommendations and label instructions.

b. Allow an appropriate contact time for the disinfectant. For a 1:10 bleach to water solution a minimum contact time is ten minutes. Then gently rinse the inside of the doors, the walls, the floor, the loading ramp and all other surfaces and equipment with water.

c. The bleach application / scrubbing process may be repeated three times.

12. The exterior of the trailer should be cleaned and disinfected following the same procedure as the interior. Ensure wheels, mudguards and wheel arches are cleaned and disinfected.

13. Removed floor mats should be rinsed with water on both sides to remove dirt and debris
   a. Scrub one side of floor mat from top left to bottom right. Follow same scrub and disinfectant procedure as trailer.
   b. Allow bleach to dry on the mat and once dry follow the same procedure to clean and disinfect the other side of the floor mat.
   c. After trailer and mats have dried, return floor mats to trailer.

14. A visual inspection of the trailer should be done to ensure that the trailer is ready for a new occupant before shipping another horse.
## Infection Disease Control Delegation of Responsibilities Table

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Responsible Person</th>
<th>Date Assigned</th>
<th>Date Completed</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Facility Assessment</td>
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<tr>
<td>Animal Entry Policy Development</td>
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<tr>
<td>Biosecurity Policy Development</td>
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<tr>
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Biosecurity References

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2. “Basic Equine Facility Biosecurity for Horse Owners and Horse Professionals”, coauthored by Dr. John Madigan, Dr. Rick Arthur, and Shara Madigan and published by the University of California Davis, Veterinary Medical Teaching Hospital. 
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