



EQUINE VACCINATION PROTOCOL

by Elizabeth Edmunds, DVM

Based on new research in equine immunology, the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) has updated recommendations for vaccinations, especially during the first year of life. Pilchuck Veterinary Hospital's vaccination recommendations follow. Please talk to your veterinarian about what program and what specific vaccines will work best for your horse(s).

To summarize, mares give their foals antibodies through passive transfer in the colostrum (first milk). New research has shown that foals develop a better immune response to vaccinations after they are at least six months old when their passive immunity has significantly decreased. For adult horses, the major changes from prior recommendations is to intranasal vaccines that help generate protective antibodies at the site of potential exposure. The vaccine causes a protective response in the area needed—the first line of defense.

	FOALS	PERFORMANCE	PLEASURE	BROODMARES
MOST IMPORTANT	<p>Initial series: Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern & Western sleeping sickness or EEE/WEE) Equine herpesvirus (Rhinopneumonitis) Equine influenza Tetanus</p> <p>Foals from vaccinated mares: Start initial series of 3 no earlier than 6 months (6, 7, 8 months)</p> <p>Foals from unvaccinated mares:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Initial series starts earlier than 6 months (3, 4, 5 months) May need tetanus antitoxin as well at birth May need to start tetanus series at birth 	<p>Equine encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) 1 X per year in spring</p> <p>Tetanus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 X per year in spring At the time of penetrating injury if not vaccinated within last six months <p>Equine herpesvirus (Rhinopneumonitis) EHV-1 & EHV-4 every 3-6 months</p> <p>Equine influenza Intranasal every 6 months</p>	<p>Equine encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) 1 X per year in spring</p> <p>Tetanus</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1 X per year in spring At the time of penetrating injury if not vaccinated within last six months <p>Rhino & Flu: 1 - 2 X per year; 4 weeks prior to exposure (horse show or event)</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equine herpesvirus (Rhinopneumonitis) EHV-1 & EHV-4 Equine influenza - intranasal 	<p>Equine herpesvirus (Rhinopneumonitis) EHV-1 at 5, 7, 9 months gestation</p> <p>Boosters: Give boosters 4-6 weeks prior to due date</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Equine encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) Tetanus Equine Influenza
BY VET'S RECOMMENDATION	<p>Discuss with your veterinarian if these are recommended for your horse:</p> <p>Streptococcus equi (Strangles) Intranasal vaccine</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st dose at 6 - 9 months 2nd dose 3 weeks later <p>Potomac Horse Fever</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 1st dose at 5 - 6 months 2nd dose at 6 - 7 months 	<p>Discuss with your veterinarian if these are recommended for your horse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streptococcus equi (Strangles) Intranasal vaccine Potomac Horse Fever (Equine monocytic ehrlichiosis) 	<p>Discuss with your veterinarian if these are recommended for your horse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streptococcus equi (Strangles) Intranasal vaccine Potomac Horse Fever (Equine monocytic ehrlichiosis) 	<p>Discuss with your veterinarian if these are recommended for your horse:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Streptococcus equi (Strangles) Intranasal vaccine Potomac Horse Fever (Equine monocytic ehrlichiosis)

VACCINE NAMES:

- Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern & Western sleeping sickness or EEE/WEE)
- Equine herpesvirus (Rhinopneumonitis)
- Equine influenza (Flu)
- Tetanus
- Streptococcus equi (Strangles)
- Equine monocytic ehrlichiosis (Potomac Horse Fever)