



EQUINE VACCINATION PROTOCOL

Summer 2003

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). We currently recommend vaccination for all equids (horses, donkeys, mules) for West Nile Virus.

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:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Tetanus Equine encephalomyelitis (Eastern & Western sleeping sickness or EEE/WEE) West Nile Equine herpesvirus (Rhinopneumonitis) Equine influenza <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"> • At 3, 4, 5 months of age, or earlier • May need to start tetanus series at birth | <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 encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) 1 X per year in spring</p> <p>West Nile Initial series of 2 (3-6 weeks apart) then minimum of 1 X year in spring.</p> <p>Equine herpesvirus (Rhinopneumonitis) EHV-1 & EHV-4 every 3-6 months</p> <p>Equine influenza Intranasal every 6 months</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 encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) 1 X per year in spring</p> <p>West Nile Initial series of 2 (3-6 wks apart) then minimum of 1 X year in spring.</p> <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"> • Tetanus • Equine encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) • West Nile • Equine Influenza |
| BY VET'S RECOMMENDATION | <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 | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streptococcus equi (Strangles) Intranasal vaccine • Potomac Horse Fever (Equine monocytic ehrlichiosis) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streptococcus equi (Strangles) Intranasal vaccine • Potomac Horse Fever (Equine monocytic ehrlichiosis) | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Streptococcus equi (Strangles) Intranasal vaccine • Potomac Horse Fever (Equine monocytic ehrlichiosis) |

VACCINE NAMES:

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