



Ref: CTO 2017 051 [G]

Horses: Equine Influenza Vaccination

CTO direction as to equivalent measures in relation to horses

Pursuant to section 27(1)(d)(iii) of the Biosecurity Act 1993 I, Lucy Johnston, Manager Animal Imports, Ministry for Primary Industries (under delegated authority), give the following directions for horses in relation to the *Import Health Standard: Horses (HORANIIC.GEN)*, issued 6 November 2015:

The nature of the non-compliance with the requirements in the applicable import health standard is:

Clause 2.12 Equine Influenza states that horses must meet the recommendations as described in the OIE Code. The OIE Code recommends vaccination no less than 35 days and nor more than 90 days prior to export.

The reason for the recommended upper limit of 90 days prior to export stated by the OIE Code is unknown. Most equine influenza vaccines provide at least 6 months (180 days) duration of immunity against the disease following a primary vaccination course. Horses that are vaccinated outside of the 90 day upper limit and according to the manufacturer's instruction would still be provided with adequate immunity. Administering a vaccine outside of the 90 day limit and meeting all other risk management measures (PEI, PAQ, and EI testing) as per the IHS will not compromise risk management.

This direction allows for an Animal Import Senior Adviser veterinarian to review the individual vaccine information +/- horse vaccinations records to determine if the vaccination is equivalent to the requirements of the IHS HORANIIC.GEN. The reason for this direction is that the biosecurity risks associated with this commodity have been assessed and are managed effectively.

This direction takes effect from the date of signing and continues in effect until amended or revoked.