

VACCINATION IS IMPORTANT FOR YOUR HORSE'S WELLBEING

Tetanus and Strangles

Horses are extremely susceptible to tetanus and vaccination is advisable for all horses. Tetanus antitoxin provides short term protection against tetanus in unvaccinated horses when the risk of infection is high. Strangles vaccination does not provide 100% protection but vaccinated horses generally have milder signs and faster recoveries than non-vaccinated horses.

Equine Herpes Virus

Duvaxyn® is a vaccine intended to protect against 2 equine herpes viruses that cause abortion in pregnant mares, and respiratory infections in young racehorses. The initial vaccination consists of two doses 4-6 weeks apart, a third dose in high-risk animals, followed by 6 monthly boosters. Pregnant mares should get further boosters at 5, 7, & 9 months of gestation. Previously unvaccinated mares should be treated at 4, 5, 7 & 9 months to maximise protection.

Equity Vaccine

Equity® vaccine is designed to control unacceptable behaviour in mares when they are 'in season'. Two doses are administered 4 weeks apart and then every 3 -6 months depending on signs of oestrus. It is not recommended for use in breeding mares as it may delay the onset of normal ovarian activity.

Salmonella

Salmonella causes severe infections in foals including joint ill, and gastrointestinal upsets in horses - most often a fatal diarrhea. Vaccination is recommended for at-risk horses namely broodmares and performance horses on high grain diets. Horses should receive 2 doses 4 weeks apart, a 3rd dose at 6 months and a booster every 12 months.

Table 1: Suggested vaccination strategies for horses

Age/Time of dose		Vaccine Type	Route
3 months		Tetanus, Strangles, Salmonella, Duvaxyn	IM
2 weeks later		Strangles	IM
1 month later		Tetanus, Strangles, Salmonella, Duvaxyn	IM
10 months old & then every 6 months		Strangles, Duvaxyn	IM
12 months old & then every 1-2 years		Tetanus, Strangles, Salmonella, Duvaxyn	IM
Pregnant Mares	4,5,7 months pregnancy	Duvaxyn	IM
	1-2 months before foaling	Tetanus, Strangles, Salmonella, Duvaxyn	