

14 SEPTEMBER 2007

EQUINE INFLUENZA

CHIEF VETERINARY OFFICER COMMUNICATION #5

Legal requirement for all veterinary practitioners

Control Order made on 11.09.07 under section 22 of the *Exotic Diseases of Animals Act 1991*

BIOSECURITY PROCEDURES

that must be followed when coming into contact with horses, mules, donkeys and other animals in the Equidae family

Under the [Control Order](#) all veterinary practitioners and staff assisting them:

1. BEFORE coming into contact with any equine animal or product, must:
 - a. Completely cover your person with overalls that may be disposed of or laundered on site.
 - b. Completely cover your hair with a hood or disposable hat.
 - c. Put on a face mask.
 - d. Put on rubber boots or disposable footwear that completely encloses your feet.
2. AFTER coming into contact with any equine animal or product must, in the order listed below:
 - a. After collecting any specimens, package them into a plastic bag to take back to the car.
 - b. At the car, blow your nose into a tissue. Place tissue in plastic bag and leave on site for disposal.
 - c. Decontaminate your gloved hands with soap, detergent or disinfectant.
 - d. Wash the outside of the sample bag using soap, detergent or disinfectant and pack into a disposable esky with ice bricks.
 - e. Disinfect any equipment you have used, e.g. thermometer, vacutainer holder, by washing thoroughly with soap or detergent.
 - f. Scrub rubber boots using soap, detergent or disinfectant before placing in vehicle.
 - g. Remove overalls, gloves, mask and hair covering and leave on site for washing or disposal.
 - h. Wash hands, arms and any exposed skin and hair thoroughly with surgical scrub or soap. Continue washing for at least two minutes. Make sure any exposed skin that may have been contaminated with saliva, nasal secretions or mucus is cleaned thoroughly.
 - i. After returning home have a thorough shower for at least three minutes, including hair wash, and change into clean clothes.

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Disclaimer: The information contained in this publication is based on knowledge and understanding at the time of writing (12 September 2007). However, because of advances in knowledge, users are reminded of the need to ensure that information upon which they rely is up to date and to check currency of the information with the appropriate officer of New South Wales Department of Primary Industries or the user's independent adviser.