

# Boehringer Ingelheim



### SPECIAL REPORT

## Vaccinating Your Horse

The reason we vaccinate our horses is simple: We want to minimize their risk of contracting a life-threatening and/or infectious disease. With that said, the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) has designated certain vaccines as "core vaccines" all horses should receive annually, regardless of age, use, or location. Use this AAEP Vaccination Guidelines-based "cheat sheet" and work with your vet to devise an immunization program that's right for your horse.





#### **CORE VACCINES**

Veterinarians recommend nearly all horses receive the core equine vaccines: tetanus, Eastern and Western equine encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE), West Nile virus (WNV), and rabies.

	WHAT HORSES NEED IT?	HOW MANY TIMES A YEAR?	SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS
Tetanus	All horses	Once annually, after an initial two-dose series at a 4- to 6-week interval.	Revaccinate horses that sustain a wound or undergo surgery 6 or more months after their last tetanus booster.
EEE/WEE	All horses	Once annually, after an initial two-dose series at a 4- to 6-week interval.	Vaccinate horses in high-risk areas with year-round vectors (e.g., mosquitoes) 2-3 times yearly.
WNV	All horses	Once annually, after an initial two-dose series at a 4- to 6-week interval.	Vaccinate horses in high-risk areas with year-round vectors (e.g., mosquitoes) twice yearly.
Rabies	All horses	Once annually.	



#### **RISK-BASED VACCINES**

Veterinarians recommend risk-based vaccines depending on the horse's region, population, and disease risk. These include the following:

	WHAT HORSES NEED IT?	HOW MANY TIMES A YEAR?	SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS
Anthrax	Those pastured in areas where alkaline soil conditions favor the disease-causing organism.	Once annually, after an initial two-dose series at a 3- to 4-week interval.	Veterinarians do not recommend vaccinating pregnant mares.
Botulism	Pregnant mares in Kentucky and the mid-Atlantic seaboard states and horses consuming large round hay bales, haylage, or silage.	Once annually, after an initial threedose series at 4-week intervals.	This vaccine is only effective against botulism type B, which occurs in spoiled hay and haylage. It does not protect against botulism type C, which occurs when hay/feed is contaminated with animal remains.
Equine Herpesvirus mares, horses younger than 5, and performance horses or those commingling with other equine populations.		Every six months, after an initial three-dose series at 4- to 6-week intervals.	Veterinarians recommend vaccinating pregnant mares during Months 5, 7, and 9 of gestation.
Equine Viral Arteritis	All stallions and breeding stock.	Annually.	Isolate vaccinated horses for three weeks to avoid virus shedding.

### THE HORSE SPECIAL REPORT



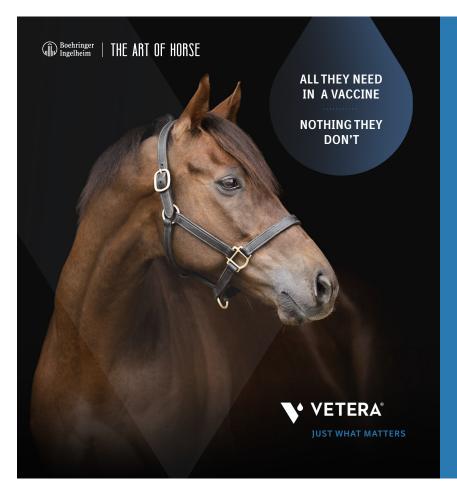
#### THE ART OF HORSE

<u> </u>	WHAT HORSES NEED IT?	HOW MANY TIMES A YEAR?	SPECIAL CONSIDERATIONS
Influenza (flu)	Horses younger than 5 and those in frequent contact with large numbers of horses.	Every six months, after an initial three-dose series at 4- to 6-week intervals.	Pregnant mares and foals require different vaccination schedules, so work with your veterinarian to vaccinate these classes.
Leptospirosis	Horses over 6 months of age.	Annually, after an initial two-dose series at three- to four-week intervals.	Safe for pregnant mares in their second trimester.
Potomac Horse Fever	Horses on farms or in geographic areas where PHF has been confirmed.	Every six to 12 months, depending on risk factors, after an initial two-dose series at 3-to 4-week intervals.	Time vaccination to precede the anticipated peak challenge period of summer and fall.
Rotaviral Diarrhea	Pregnant mares.	A three-dose series at Months 8, 9, and 10 of gestation.	
Snake Bite	Horses residing in or traveling to geographical areas where exposure risk to venomous snakes justifies usage.	Every six months, after an initial three-dose series at one-month intervals.	Have your veterinarian contact the vaccine manufacturer regarding use in pregnant mares and foals younger than 6 months.
Strangles	Horses on premises where strangles is endemic, and horses traveling and comingling with horses of unknown history.	Every six to 12 months, depending on risk factors, after an initial two-dose series at 3-week intervals.	Vaccination is not recommended during a strangles outbreak.

While vaccination helps reduce your horse's disease risk, it does not prevent disease in all circumstances and without accompanying management practices. Work with your veterinarian to customize a vaccination protocol for your horse.

This Special Report may be reprinted and distributed in this exact form for educational purposes only in print or electronically. It may not be used for commercial purposes in print or electronically or republished on a website, forum, or blog, unless specifically authorized by The Horse. For more horse health information on this and other topics visit TheHorse.com.

Published by The Horse: Your Guide To Equine Health Care, © Copyright 2023 The Horse Media Group. Contact editorial@TheHorse.com.





Unlike some vaccines, Vetera\* Gold\*\* provides just what horses need and no more. Our Ultrafil\* Purification Technology removes cell debris and unnecessary proteins that may contribute to injection site reactions. Every drop of Vetera is engineered with care for real protection and real peace of mind. Because we know just what it takes to protect horses. Just what matters.

VETERA\* is a registered trademark of Boehringer Ingelheim Vetmedica GmBH, used under license. ULTRAFIL\* is a registered trademark of Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc. ©2022 Boehringer Ingelheim Animal Health USA Inc., Duluth, GA. All Rights Reserved. US-EQU-0108-2020-V2