

RABIES VACCINATION WAIVER

Exam Date: _____ Veterinarian: _____

Clinic Name and Address: _____

Owner's Name: _____

Address: _____

Horse's Registered Name _____

Horse's Nickname: _____ Age: _____ Date of Birth: _____ Sex: _____

Breed: _____ Color/Markings: _____

Stable Location: _____

I am the owner or the legally designated agent for the owner of the animal described above, and possess full legal authority to execute this waiver.

With respect to annual rabies vaccinations for this horse, I have been advised that:

1. Equine rabies is a potential risk when horses interact with wildlife such as - but not limited to - bats, raccoons, skunks or foxes.
2. Rabies is defined as a "fatal viral zoonotic" disease, meaning it can spread from animals to people through bite or contamination by saliva of an infected animal to an open cut, wound or contact with a mucous membrane of another animal or person.
3. Clinical signs of rabies may take from two weeks to six weeks or longer to appear; **ONCE CONFIRMED, RABIES IS DEEMED 100% FATAL TO INFECTED ANIMALS AND HUMANS.**
4. Equine rabies vaccination is identified as a "core vaccine" by three major veterinary associations, the AVMA, the AAEP and the NASPHV, with annual vaccination considered "industry standard".
5. I understand that "core vaccines" are those that:
 - a. Are vaccines that have clearly demonstrated efficacy and safety, and thus exhibit a high enough level of patient benefit and low enough level of risk to justify their use in the majority of patients.
 - b. Protect from diseases endemic or present within a region;
 - c. Possess a public health significance;
 - d. May be required by law depending on the applicable state;
6. Inoculate against virulent or highly infectious diseases; and
7. I have read and understand the above rabies warning, and the symptom and treatment protocols on the back of this form. However, I have elected to forego annual rabies vaccinations for this animal. I knowingly assume all risks associated with this decision. I further agree to assume sole responsibility and liability, as to myself and all affected third parties, for any consequences arising out of my decision not to vaccinate for rabies.

Print Name

Signature

Date

RABIES TREATMENT AND SYMPTOM PROTOCOLS

Recommended Treatment Protocols

- **The AVMA, AAEP and NASPHV recommend equine rabies vaccinations as follows:**
 - o Foals of mares vaccinated against rabies: Administer a primary 2 dose series. The first dose of vaccine should be administered no earlier than 6 months of age. The second dose should be given 4 to 6 weeks later. Revaccinate annually thereafter.
 - o Horses: Annually
 - o Dogs and Cats on the Premises: Annually¹
- **After exposure, clinical signs typically appear in two to six weeks or longer. Signs can be subtle and include:**
 - o Sudden change in behavior (depression to manic)
 - o Lameness or being unable to rise
 - o Head pressing and circling
 - o Pain or difficulty urinating
 - o Muscle tremors or convulsions
 - o Persistent and painful erection in absence of sexual interest
 - o Loss of appetite
 - o Appearance of choke
 - o Neurologic signs such as incoordination and paralysis, and/or
 - o Sudden death
- **If you suspect your horse has been exposed to rabies:**
 - o Quarantine the animal from other humans and animals immediately
 - o Contact everyone who potentially came into contact with the horse and recommend they secure preventative rabies vaccinations treatments from their health care provider
 - o Caregiver is advised to use protective gear (i.e. eye protection, gloves) any time they are handling the horse; and must also wash hands, face and any exposed area of the body which has been in contact with the horse
 - o If your horse has been vaccinated:
 - Typically, the exposed horse is re-vaccinated, isolated and monitored for signs of the disease for 45 days¹
 - o If your horse has NOT been vaccinated:
 - Horse may either be euthanized, or
 - Quarantined for six months subject to approval of state health organization
 - Most horses typically die within two to four days of showing clinical signs
 - Quarantine protocols are required during the entire quarantine period
 - Caregivers should secure rabies vaccinations for themselves
 - o Rabies is a reportable condition; contact your veterinarian AND your state or federal disease control authorities.
 - o Reporting locations can be located through the Center for Disease Control's web site at: <https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/resources/contacts.html>

Veterinary personnel should provide a copy of this form to the animal owner or agent for their files.