

# South East Country Vets

31 Cairnscroft Street, Toogoolawah QLD 4313 | P: 07 5423 1303  
16 William Street, Crows Nest QLD 4355 | P: 07 4698 2520  
80 Hart Street, Blackbutt QLD 4314 | P: 07 4170 0022



## CLIENT INSTRUCTION & CONSENT FORM FOR SUSPECT HENDRA CASES

We have taken samples for testing with Biosecurity Queensland for a Hendra exclusion test. The results will take between 1-5 days to return.

### CARING FOR HORSES WHILE WAITING FOR HENDRA RESULTS

People have been infected with Hendra virus and all of these people have caught the infection from horses. Strict precautions must be taken when you are caring for your horses while waiting for Hendra results.

The following are strict guidelines that we are instructing you to adhere to which will ensure your safety and the safety of other people that may potentially come in contact with your sick horse.

### WHILE YOU ARE WAITING FOR TEST RESULTS

- Avoid going within 5 meters of the sick horse until Hendra virus has been ruled out.
- Do not allow children or minors to be within 10 meters of the sick or dead horse, its body fluids or wastes.
- Move sick horses away from areas that can be accessed by the public.
- Isolate the sick horse from other animals if it is safe to do so. Ideally, move to a stable or small well enclosed yard where it can't escape and potentially come in contact with other horses, animals or people.
- If you need to feed and water the sick horse keep your distance from them.
- Notify your veterinarian immediately of any change in the health status of any horse on the property. We will attend your horse in the coming days should it require any further treatment. We will treat the horse within our risk management guidelines using strict work place health and safety guidelines. DO NOT attempt to treat the horse yourself until a negative result is returned.

### MANAGING A CARCASS

- If the horse under investigation dies or is euthanased, avoid contact with the carcass where possible.
- Should the animal need burial or disposal prior to a negative result being returned, please contact us so that we can attend and ensure it is buried safely and within work place health and safety guidelines.
- Restrict access to the carcass until it can be disposed of e.g. cover with tarpaulin and tape off area. Avoid any contact with the carcass.
- Caring for other animals while waiting for Hendra results. Some other species of animals, such as dogs, cats and pigs are known to be susceptible to Hendra virus infection. If they become infected with Hendra virus they may pose a risk to humans. All pets should be locked up to prevent contact with the sick horse, its carcass or its body fluids and wastes. Always practice strict hygiene when handling any animal, especially those that may have had contact with the infected animal or its body fluids and wastes.
- Inform your neighboring properties on all boundaries that you have a suspect Hendra case and to remain off your property. Ensure there are two fences, at least 5m apart between the affected horse/s and your boundary.

**PERSONAL HYGIENE WHILST WAITING FOR TEST RESULTS**

We strongly advise that you avoid all contact with the animal.

- Carefully remove any clothing contaminated with a sick horse’s body fluids.
- Immediately wash your hands with soap and water and dry them or use hand wipes and waterless hand hygiene solution.
- If you have handled a sick horse, follow these steps before having contact with other horses:
  - wash off any contamination with plenty of soap and water.
  - shower and wash your hair.
  - change your clothes and footwear.
  - disinfect footwear and wash clothes in soapy water.

**Human Health Concerns**

If you have concerns about a person’s health at any time, seek medical advice. Contact your general practitioner, local hospital emergency department or local public health unit.

By reading and signing the following you agree to adhere to these guidelines and conditions.

Name .....

Witness .....

Sign .....

Sign .....

Date .....