

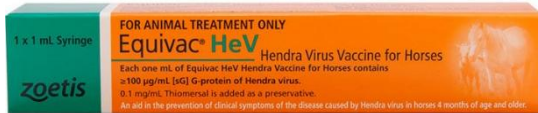
Protect your horses, your family and yourself.

PEAK HENDRA SEASON IS HERE!



As we approach 12 months since a horse near our local area was confirmed to have Hendra virus, it is an important reminder that this often-fatal disease remains a year-round threat to horses and people alike. While Hendra virus can occur at any time of year, outbreaks have most commonly been recorded during the cooler months, from May through to October. Vaccination remains the most effective way to protect both horses and their handlers from this deadly disease.

Flying foxes capable of carrying Hendra virus are present across our entire region, meaning no horse owner can assume they are geographically protected. We fully support and have complete confidence in the safety and effectiveness of the Hendra vaccine. After administering well over a thousand doses, we have observed very few adverse reactions, and those that have occurred have been minor and short-lived. When it comes to your horse's health, an informed decision is the best decision. If you have any questions or concerns about Hendra virus or vaccination, please contact us and speak with one of our knowledgeable team members. **The vaccination protocol is simple; after the initial dose, the horse must receive a 2nd dose within 3-6 weeks, followed by a 6 month booster, then Annual vaccinations for life.**



Please call your local clinic if you have any enquiries about hendra or if you wish to obtain a copy of our Hendra Virus vaccination protocol.

Have you got a PETSIONER?

Caring for our Senior Pets.

Although your pet may still look and behave like a youngster, after their 7th birthday (or 5th birthday for large and giant breeds), cats and dogs enter their senior years. In human terms, it's equivalent to entering your 50s. Just as our own nutritional and physical needs change with age, our pet's feeding and exercise routines need some adjusting as well.

Diseases such as arthritis, cancer, diabetes and kidney disease are much more common in senior pets. **Regular check-ups and blood tests** will help detect these conditions. The earlier they are detected, the better the chances of managing them successfully thus improving quality of life and longevity in your beloved pet.

Tips to keeping senior pets happier and healthier for longer:

1. Keep them warm and comfortable, particularly through the winter months!
2. Feed a premium quality diet and several small meals a day instead of 1 large serving (aids in digestion).
3. Give them regular exercise to help preserve muscle tone and keep those bones/ joints strong!
4. Talk to your vet about joint supplements (/book a consult if they require prescription joint care).
5. Trim their nails on a regular basis, as senior pets are prone to inactivity, therefore longer nails.
6. Brush and groom them regularly to help stimulate the skin to produce natural oils.

