

Biosecurity Queensland alert

Hendra virus – veterinarian communiqué

05 June 2012

Further positive Hendra virus results

First round test results were received last night for samples taken from animals quarantined on two properties – one near Rockhampton and the other near Ingham.

Rockhampton case

Two horses on the Rockhampton property where a horse died of Hendra virus on the 26 May 2012 have returned positive test results.

The two horses have not shown any clinical signs.

Test results on the two horses:
PCR nasal swabs – positive
Indirect ELISA - negative

There are eight horses remaining on the property. The other six horses have returned negative results.

Biosecurity Queensland officers were on the property this morning and re-sampled the eight horses to corroborate the results.

Ingham case

A positive result was received on a sample from one dog on the Ingham property where a horse died of Hendra virus on 28 May 2012.

Biosecurity Queensland officers were on the property this morning and re-sampled the dog. Further testing on the dog is needed for corroboration as three out of the four samples collected from the dog were negative.

Test results:
PCR rectal swab – positive
PCR nasal & oral swab; blood – negative
Serum Neutralisation Test - negative

There are five horses, five dogs and three cats being monitored and tested on this property.

All other first round test results have been negative.

Hendra virus survey for veterinarians

Veterinarians attending equine cases in Queensland have been asked to participate in an [online survey](#) on Hendra virus. The survey closes on 18 June 2012.

More information

All veterinarians are encouraged to remain vigilant when attending to sick horses.

Notify suspected Hendra virus cases by contacting Biosecurity Queensland on 13 25 23 (business hours) or the Emergency Animal Disease Watch Hotline on 1800 675 888 (24-hour hotline).

Contact your GP, local Queensland Health Emergency Department or local Public Health Unit if you have concerns about possible exposure of people to a horse with Hendra virus infection.

For general enquiries about the infection of Hendra virus in humans, call the Queensland Health Hotline on 13HEALTH (13 43 25 84) or visit www.health.qld.gov.au

For information about managing Hendra virus risks at workplaces, contact Workplace Health and Safety Queensland on 1300 369 915 or visit www.worksafe.qld.gov.au



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