

1. Purpose:

To provide instructions for equine pre-purchase (PPE) drug screening used by members of Equine Veterinarians Australia (EVA) a special interest group (SIG) of the Australian Veterinary Association (AVA). Racing Analytical Services Ltd (RASL) will provide PPE drug screening through Vetnostics Victoria and Western Australia to EVA members using the EVA PPE forms.

2. Specific Requirements:

- 2.1.** PPE drug screening is only available to AVA members using the EVA PPE form. The member's AVA membership number must be quoted on the official, original, individually numbered EVA PPE form. No exceptions, transfers or proxies will be permitted. A breach of this rule would be considered as a breach of the AVA Code of Conduct. Breaches will be investigated and may result in the veterinarian being referred to the regulatory authority.
- 2.2.** The drug screening will be offered to EVA member clinics (hereafter referred to as 'clinic') via the Vetnostics Victoria / Western Australia
- 2.3.** The veterinary pathology laboratory will be the contractor to the clinic. Members must contact the pathology laboratory for pricing of the kits, freight and for the drug screening
- 2.4.** There will be no direct communication or clinic accounts with RASL
- 2.5.** This service is not available for thoroughbred or standardbred that are registered with relevant racing authorities. This category of horse has other screening options available to them via discussion with their local racing stewards.
- 2.6.** Only available to all other horses as a genuine PPE drug screen. No exceptions.
- 2.7.** The sample will be blood. No urine samples will be accepted by RASL
- 2.8.** It is not a comprehensive test
- 2.9.** Not all drugs will be screened. The drug groups covered include: NSAIDs, Sedatives, Corticosteroids, and Local Anaesthetics. Anabolic steroids can be tested as an additional screen, at an additional cost.
- 2.10.** It is not guaranteed to find a particular drug.
- 2.11.** RASL undertakes to provide results back to the pathology lab within 4-5 working days of receipt of the sample.
- 2.12.** A 'B' Sample will be taken and held for no longer than 2 months. If the 'A' Sample is positive to a drug, and this result is disputed, then the 'B' Sample will be sent to another suitably qualified and appropriate racing analytical laboratory. RASL will nominate which laboratory is to carry out testing of the B sample. No correspondence will be entered into and this will be at the disputing parties cost.
- 2.13.** The examining veterinarian must warrant in writing on the official, original, individually numbered, EVA PPE form, that the sample submitted for testing is from the actual horse.
- 2.14.** The blood sample is to be taken at the time of PPE examination. It is recommended to advise the purchaser, to not complete the purchase of the horse until the results of the drug screening are known.

3. Procedure:

- 3.1.** Order EVA PPE forms from EVA office T: 02 9431 5080 or eva@ava.com.au, alternatively via the EVA App
- 3.2.** Contact Vetnostics Victoria ☎ 1300 838 522 or Email: vetnostics.VIC@vetnostics.com.au or Western Australia ☎ (08) 9317 0777 or Email: vetnostics.WA@vetnostics.com.au to order blood sampling kit and determine how the sample will be returned to laboratory (courier or 3rd party freight)

- 3.3.** The sample kit will be delivered by Vetnostics courier or Express post (charges apply) The kit will be accompanied by the relevant Vetnostics submission form and RASL blood collection guidelines.
- 3.4.** The veterinarian will need to confirm who will be present at the time of the PPE and ensure all parties agree on the process for the blood collection. The veterinarian may act as the purchaser's agent. The vendor (or agent) will need to nominate who will witness the blood collection procedure if they are unable to attend the PPE. The veterinarian then conducts the PPE exam and records it using the EVA PPE form. The blood sample should be taken prior to any sedation being given to the horse to facilitate examination.
- 3.5.** If the sample is not taken prior to sedating; the sedative name, dose and route of administration should be recorded on the EVA PPE form. The purchaser should be advised that the horse will return a positive result to that drug.
- 3.6.** The vendor (or agent) and purchaser should be offered the opportunity to view the blood sampling procedure.
- 3.7.** For the sample to be processed the Sample ID, EVA member and EVA PPE Form numbers must be filled out on the Vetnostics pathology form. The white copy of the RASL Sample Identity Document must be returned with the completed Vetnostics VIC or WA submission form. The yellow copy should be retained by the Veterinarian and the pink copy given to the purchaser.
- 3.8.** Once the sample has been collected it should be kept cool and returned to the Victorian or Western Australian Vetnostics laboratory as soon as possible. If a Vetnostics VIC or WA courier is not available in your area, the sample should be returned by 3rd party freight provider (charges apply) Vetnostics Victoria (18 Banksia St Heidelberg, VIC 3084) or Vetnostics Western Australia (1 Sabre Crescent Western Australia 6164).
- 3.9.** The submission form with attached white copy of the Sample Identity document must be returned with the sample to Vetnostics Victoria (18 Banksia St Heidelberg, VIC 3084) or Vetnostics Western Australia (1 Sabre Crescent Western Australia 6164).
- 3.10.** Vetnostics Victoria or Western Australia complete the RASL sample submission form and send the blood sample to RASL for analysis
- 3.11.** RASL will analyse the sample and return the results to Vetnostics Victoria or Western Australia nominated on the RASL Sample Submission form. RASL undertakes to report results within 5 working days of receipt at their laboratory.
- 3.12.** Vetnostics Victoria or Western Australia will report the results to the veterinarian
- 3.13.** Veterinarian will report results back to the purchaser.

End of Equine Pre-Purchase work instruction