

WORKPLACE HEALTH AND SAFETY QUEENSLAND CHECKLIST FOR MANAGING HENDRA VIRUS RISKS FOR HORSE PROPERTIES AND OTHER HORSE RELATED BUSINESSES

ISSUE	YES	NO	COMMENT
Flying foxes			
Are flying foxes known to be in the vicinity of the property?			
Property design and maintenance			
Does the property have trees that are attractive to flying foxes for either roosting or feeding?			
<p>If yes, are steps taken to minimise contact between flying foxes and horses? For example:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Remove horses from paddocks where flying foxes roost. • Avoid placing horses in paddocks that contain trees that are attractive to flying foxes or remove horses from paddocks when trees are flowering or fruiting. • At night, bring horses into a cleared night holding area or covered enclosure without nearby or overhanging trees. • Avoid feed that is attractive to flying foxes (e.g. fruit, vegetables and molasses) • Tree management <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Clear trees that are attractive to flying foxes for roosting or feeding. ○ Plant trees that are not attractive to flying foxes for roosting or feeding.* <p>To deter roosting, plant single trees or single lines of trees, and clear or avoid planning groves.</p>			
Are feed bins and watering points placed under cover			

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and away from trees.			
Are horses prevented from having nose-to nose contact with horses on adjoining properties? (e.g. double fence the boundary or position paddocks away from the boundary)			
Are the yards and stables maintained in a hygienic condition?			
Is there an area where sick horses can be isolated?			
Amenities			
Is there ready access to hand hygiene amenities in clinical and stable areas?			
Are workers' amenities maintained in a hygienic condition?			
Is a shower provided for workers who have had contact with sick horses (e.g. portable camping shower)?			
Hendra virus response plan			
Is there a plan for safely responding to potential and confirmed cases of Hendra virus?			
If yes, is the plan documented?			
Routine contact with horses			
Is hand hygiene routinely performed after contact with horses, their blood and body substances and associated items and equipment?			
Are cuts and abrasions covered up before horse contact?			
Are first aid kits readily available so that staff can cover cuts and abrasions?			
Is horse equipment routinely cleaned/disinfected after use and before use on another horse?			
Is there a procedure for the safe handling, use,			

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transport and disposal of needles, syringes and other sharps?			
Are needles and syringes disposed of in a rigid walled, puncture resistant container?			
Routine higher risk procedures on horses			
Are higher risk procedures* performed on horses? * Procedures that involve a high level of contact with, or aerosolisation of, horse blood and body substances (e.g. assisting veterinarians with necropsy, dental procedures).			
If yes, is the following PPE routinely worn when performing higher risk procedures on horses? <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disposable gloves • protective clothing • hair covering (e.g. bucket hat) • for droplets: facial protection (e.g. face shield, safety eyewear/mask) • for aerosols: particulate respirator (e.g. disposable, fluid-resistant P2 respirator). 			
Contact with sick horses			
Are sick horses isolated from people and other horses and animals until you have sought a veterinary opinion?			
Is contact with sick horses limited to that which is absolutely necessary?			
Does contact with sick horses occur after contact with healthy horses?			
Are adequate supplies of PPE provided for contact with sick horses? If yes, does this include: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disposable gloves 			

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<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • disposable splash resistant overalls with hood • facial protection (e.g. safety eyewear/face shield) • impervious safety footwear • disposable P2 respirator. 			
Have steps been taken to manage heat stress when wearing PPE?			
Is there a procedure to notify others (e.g. carcass disposal contractors) about Hendra virus risks if there is a suspect or confirmed case at the property?			
Is there a procedure to ensure that visiting horse practitioners (e.g. farriers) are not allowed to work on sick horses?			
Training			
Are workers provided with information, instruction and training on routine hygiene practices, the management of sick horses and Hendra virus and its associated infection control/biosecurity procedures?			
Are workers provided with training on the correct use of PPE?			
Notifiable events			
Is there a procedure to record work injuries, work-caused illnesses and dangerous events?			
Is there a procedure to notify Workplace Health and Safety Queensland of serious bodily injuries, work-caused illnesses and dangerous events?			
Is there a protocol to notify Workplace Health and Safety Queensland of occupationally acquired zoonoses, other work-caused illnesses, serious bodily injuries and dangerous events?			

* Trees that are not attractive to flying foxes include: conifers, casuarinas (she oaks), cypress, brachychiton (kurrajong, flame tree, bottle tree), fiddlewood trees, olive trees, bougainvillea, racehorse trees (tipuana), jacaranda, poinciana and wattle (the little red flying fox feeds on pollen when other food is scarce but the wattle flowering season though intense is very short). Of these, jacaranda, poinciana, kurrajong and tipuana are shade trees.

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