

EQUINE VACCINATIONS

Vaccination is the core of Isle Valley Equine clinic's preventative healthcare service. Not only does vaccination offer protection against debilitating and potentially fatal diseases, it also provides the opportunity for your horse to receive a veterinary examination and for you to discuss all aspects of your horse's health and welfare with the experts on annual basis. All horses and ponies that compete even at Riding Club or Pony Club level need to be fully vaccinated (flu and tetanus) within the Jockey Club rules as listed below.

Vaccines are available to protect your horse against three major diseases:

TETANUS

It is essential to vaccinate all horses against this disease of the nervous system caused by a toxin produced by a soil born bacterium called *Clostridium tetani*. Tetanus is often fatal and can develop in any unvaccinated horse if the wound becomes infected with these bacteria. Tetanus vaccine is very effective. The recommended course of vaccines is not as strict as with the Equine Influenza Vaccine but the guidelines are:

- ❖ 1st Vaccination
- ❖ 2nd Vaccination 4 – 6 weeks after the first vaccination
- ❖ 3rd Vaccination about a year after the second vaccination
- ❖ Thereafter every other year.

EQUINE INFLUENZA

This is a common viral respiratory infection in the horse causing upper and lower airway disease with chronic coughing. Affected horses usually require a significant period of recuperation and may also develop respiratory allergies following recovery. Vaccination against Equine influenza is a requirement for competition under Jockey Club rules and





most other equine authorities. These rules **must be adhered** to otherwise you will have to start the vaccine course again. The vaccine course is as follows:

- ❖ 1st Vaccination
- ❖ 2nd Vaccination 21 – 92 days after the first vaccination
- ❖ 3rd Vaccination 150 – 215 days after the second vaccination
- ❖ Thereafter annually **within** 365 days of the previous vaccination.

The FEI now requires booster vaccination every six months. We will endeavour, but cannot guarantee, to send booster reminders. Tetanus and influenza vaccine can be combined in a single injection.

EQUINE HERPES VIRUS1,4

Equine Herpes Virus (EHV) causes low grade respiratory disease and is very common in race horses and competition horses. Vaccination is recommended in these groups of horses or any horse that travels extensively. EHV can also cause abortion pregnant mares and vaccination at the fifth, seventh, and ninth months of pregnancy is recommended in brood mares.

We offer all of the above vaccinations as part of our Free Visit days. One day a week one of our vets is in your area undertaking routine work such as vaccinations and dental work so there is no visit or call out charge.

If you would like further information vaccines or any other equine service please contact our clinic at:

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Please visit our website for more information:
www.islevalleyvets.co.uk

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