



## AAEP Statement on the Use of Medroxyprogesterone Acetate in Competition Horses (2019)

Medroxyprogesterone acetate (MPA) is a synthetic progestin hormone administered to mares off-label in an attempt to suppress behavioral estrus. However, a controlled research study found that MPA was not effective at suppression of behavioral estrus. (1) Many veterinarians believe MPA modifies behavior by producing a calming effect in the horse and does not have a therapeutic benefit that goes beyond this behavior modification. Therefore, the AAEP recommends that MPA should not be administered to horses in competition.

1. Gee EK, C DeLuca, JL Stylski, PM McCue. Efficacy of medroxyprogesterone acetate in suppression of estrus in cycling mares. J Equine Vet Sci 2009;29:140-145.

<https://aaep.org/guidelines/aaep-ethical-and-professional-guidelines/aaep-position-statements/medication>