

# VESICULAR STOMATITIS VIRUS

HEALTHY HORSES = HEALTHY COMPETITION

*BIOSECURITY - HABITS THAT PROTECT YOUR HORSE*

A few changes in your daily routine can make a huge difference. Consider these best practices before loading your horse onto the trailer.

1

**Vigilant inspection of your horse for blister like lesions in/around the mouth, nose, feet, ears, coronary band and/or sheath/udder.**

Other signs may include crusting scabs, excessive salivation; reluctance to eat and possible lameness. Monitor your horse for clinical signs of disease & report a temperature over 101.5°F to a veterinarian.



2

**Practice routine temperature taking twice daily.**

A horse with a temperature over 101.5F should be isolated and withdrawn from competition.

3

**Implement strict fly control.**

As VS is transmitted by black flies, sand flies and midges, utilization of fly sprays, fly ointments and fly masks reduces your horse's exposure to the virus.



4

**Keep the stabling area clean and dry.**

As the flies which transmit VS breed in organic material such as manure and in standing water such as around faucets or washracks, it is important ensure the stables are clean and dry.



5

**Do not share equipment.**

VS virus excreted from the blister like lesion can contaminate equipment, tools, tack and water/feed buckets. Any equipment that is shared **MUST** be cleaned and disinfected between uses.

6

**Check Movement Restrictions Prior to Movements.**

Some states have more restrictive entry requirements for areas/states with vesicular stomatitis. Contact the state of destination for entry requirements and contact state of origin for any requirements for horses returning home.



**STOP VS: TO KEEP COMPETING:  
KEEP YOUR HORSES HEALTHY  
TO KEEP COMPETITION  
GROUNDS HEALTHY**

