



**Stayton
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HOSPITAL
Your Pet. Our Passion.

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Biosecurity Recommendations for Horse Owners

Basic biosecurity reminders

The recent EHV-1 problem is a good reminder that basic biosecurity programs should be in place for every barn. For horses that leave the property and go to shows or events where they mix with other horses, or for new horses to your property, it is always a good idea to enforce a short quarantine upon their return/ entry into your barn to allow time to identify any possible diseases and to minimize the risk of bringing disease to the other horses in your barn. Remember, there are many diseases horses may be spreading, especially when stressed from shows and travel, without looking outwardly sick at the time.

Basic post show quarantine recommendation

(NOT the Same as EHV-1 Exposure Quarantine)

- Return horses to physically separate area from other horses on property. If a separate barn is not available, place these horses at a different end or area of the barn where they are not in nose-to-nose contact with other horses and are not walked through areas that other horses use.
- Clean these stalls last and feed these horses last.
- Wash hands after handling these horses. Change clothes and clean boots before going from quarantine to non-quarantine horses.

- Do not share any tack, grooming supplies, feeding supplies or other equipment between quarantine and non-quarantine horses.
- Take rectal temperatures daily and inform your veterinarian if a temperature over 101.5 is found.
- Monitor for any signs of illness such as fever, lethargy, nasal discharge, cough, diarrhea, poor appetite, colic, abnormal gait or posture or any other sign of illness.
- Follow these recommendations for two weeks after returning from a show to minimize chances of spreading diseases that may have been picked up at a show or other barn.

Just remember, use common sense and take basic hygiene measures to decrease your chances of bringing diseases home to your other horses. If you notice any abnormalities in any of these horses, contact your veterinarian for further recommendations.