

1. Horses transported onto Gatton Campus

- All incoming horses with unknown health status must undergo the induction procedures and be quarantined for 10-14 days in a yard or paddock that is isolated from all resident horses. Each animal must undergo a clinical examination, including temperature, heart rate, respiratory rate, mucous membrane colour and refill.

Horse movements on and off campus must be recorded in the Transport Logbook located in the offices at Farm Square.

2. General maintenance of horses

- **All Horses used for teaching and research must be vaccinated for HeV prior to commencement of program (refer to Hendra Virus Vaccination Implementation Strategy: Guideline)**
- **All student owned horses agisting at UQ Gatton Equine Unit – must be vaccinated for HeV prior to arrival on campus.**
- **All personnel should pay attention to personal hygiene – cover all cuts and abrasions, wash hands after handling horses, do not eat or smoke in the Equine Unit area (or when handling horses).**
- Daily welfare observations must be made of all horses
- Signs and symptoms to be alert for are: abnormal behaviour, dullness, coughing, lack of appetite, nasal discharge, and ataxia. Evidence of these symptoms are considered risk factors – see 3.
- Temperature screening – rectal temperatures must be taken and recorded for stabled/yarded horses by all horse owners/caretakers every 2 days. A rise of 1.5 degrees is considered a risk factor – see 3.
- Horses must not be left in yards overnight where trees are located that are designated a risk area.
- Horses must not be allowed to graze under fig trees near riding arenas at any time.
- Portable fenced mounted feeders should be placed as far away from fig trees as possible. If they cannot be moved more than 10 meters from a tree, then tyre feeders should be used instead. Tyre feeders must be placed away from trees and under shelter if available.
- Foods attractive to fruit bats must not be placed in feeding troughs, eg. Carrots, apples, molasses.

3. Suspected Hendra virus cases

If a horse exhibits abnormal signs described above, the following steps should be taken immediately:

- Wash hands, face and body with soap and water under a shower.
- Notify the Equine Unit Manager, Supervisor and/or other senior staff member
- Do not touch the horse. Await instructions from the Equine Unit Manager, Supervisor or Veterinarian.

4. These instructions apply to the Equine Unit Manager and Supervisor or other senior personnel including security officers and relate to actions required for suspected Hendra virus cases.

If a horse exhibits abnormal signs described above, the following steps should be taken immediately:

- Wear PPE – see below
- Establish quarantine area around the horse and leave the suspected horse where it was found.
- Prohibit all personnel from approaching the quarantine area (notify Security).
- The following PPE must be worn when handling suspect horses. This equipment is kept in the Hendra virus PPE kit located in offices in Farm Square.
 - Impervious overalls
 - Rubber boots/impervious over boots
 - Particular mask P2 – **not** effective for bearded operators.
 - Face shield or safety eyewear
 - Nitrile gloves – double layer
 - Clinical waste bags for used disposable PPE
- Contact a veterinarian (see above)