

Thursday, 8 June 2017



Important Notice: Intra-Articular Injection of Corticosteroids

Trainers and veterinarians are reminded of their obligations under the provisions of AR64M which prohibits the administration of an intra-articular ("into the joint") corticosteroid preparation to a Thoroughbred racehorse within 8 Clear Days of a race, official trial or jump-out.

Further, participants are reminded that this enforced stand down period for intra-articular corticosteroids must not be confused with the recommended "withdrawal" time for the particular drug used and/or for the joint injected.

The withdrawal period for a prohibited substance is calculated to ensure a horse is presented clear of the prohibited substance when sampled. In the case of intra-articular injections, the withdrawal period will depend on the corticosteroid used as well as the joint(s) injected.

A recent case (see - [Stewards inquiry into Astronomos \(GB\) sample](#)) involving the detection of triamcinolone acetonide in a race day sample following the intra-articular injection of the drug (in the preparation Kenacort) into the stifle joint just outside the 8 clear days in accordance with AR64M highlights this important issue.

In certain situations, specifically for longer acting corticosteroid preparations such as methylprednisolone and/or for injections into joints other than the carpal (knee) and fetlock joints, the recommended "withdrawal" period may be much longer than the minimum stand down time prescribed by AR.64M.

Therefore, trainers and their veterinarians must carefully consider the circumstances of each particular case before deciding upon the appropriate time of intra-articular injection before competition to ensure that the horse is presented without detectable residues of the corticosteroid administered.

Notice at:

<http://www.racingnsw.com.au/article-display/Important-Notice-IntraArticular-Injection-Of-Corticosteroids/23027>



CLEAR DAY RULE CHARTS

THE CHARTS BELOW RELATE TO RULES OF RACING WHICH PROHIBIT THE ADMINISTRATION OF SUBSTANCES OR TREATMENTS FOR A NUMBER OF CLEAR DAYS PRIOR TO A RACE, OFFICIAL TRIAL OR JUMP OUT.

THESE CHARTS SEEK TO ASSIST THE TRAINER BY VISUALLY SHOWING THE DAYS ON WHICH SUBSTANCES OR TREATMENTS CANNOT BE ADMINISTERED.

THE YELLOW HIGHLIGHTS REPRESENT **CLEAR DAYS** ON WHICH THE SUBSTANCE OR TREATMENT CAN NOT BE ADMINISTERED. THE GREEN HIGHLIGHTS REPRESENT THE DAY OF THE **RACE, OFFICIAL TRIAL OR JUMPOUT**. THE RED HIGHLIGHTS REPRESENT THE **LAST DAY THE SUBSTANCE OR TREATMENT CAN BE ADMINISTERED**. SUBSTANCES OR TREATMENTS CANNOT BE ADMINISTERED ON THE DAY OF THE RACE, OFFICIAL TRIAL OR JUMPOUT PRIOR TO THAT RACE, OFFICIAL TRIAL OR JUMPOUT.

8 CLEAR DAYS — INTRA-ARTICULAR CORTICOSTEROIDS (AR 64M) (INCLUDING BUT NOT LIMITED TO KENACORT®, CELESTONE®, INTRA LOG INJECTION®)

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
IA CS ADMIN	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	RACEDAY TRIAL JUMPOUT			
			IA CS ADMIN	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	RACEDAY TRIAL JUMPOUT

7 CLEAR DAYS — SHOCK WAVE (AR 64H)

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
	SHOCK WAVE	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	RACEDAY TRIAL JUMPOUT			
				SHOCK WAVE	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	RACEDAY TRIAL JUMPOUT

5 CLEAR DAYS— VACCINATION (AR 64N)

MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT	SUN	MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI	SAT
			VACCINE	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	RACEDAY			
						VACCINE	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	CLEAR DAY	RACEDAY

1 CLEAR DAY — INJECTIONS (AR 178AB) & ALKALINISING AGENTS (AR 178AA) & STOMACH TUBE (AR 64G)

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
ALL INJECTIONS	CLEAR DAY	RACE DAY				
STOMACH TUBE TREATMENT ALKALINISING AGENT ADMINISTRATION		RACE DAY TRIAL				
			ALL INJECTIONS STOMACH TUBE TREATMENT ALKALINISING AGENT ADMINISTRATION	CLEAR DAY	RACE DAY	
					RACE DAY TRIAL	

EXEMPTED SUBSTANCES (AR 178C (2))

MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT	SUN
	EXEMPTED SUBSTANCES	RACE DAY				
				EXEMPTED SUBSTANCES	RACE DAY	

THE FOLLOWING **ORALLY ADMINISTERED** SUBSTANCES ARE EXEMPTED FROM THE PROVISIONS OF RULE AR 178B, AND MAY BE ADMINISTERED UP TO BUT **NOT INCLUDING THE DAY OF A RACE**

ANTIMICROBIALS (ANTIBIOTICS), BUT NOT PROCAINE PENICILLIN
RANITIDINE (E.G. ULCERGUARD®)
BROMHEXINE
DEMBREXINE
ALTRENOGEST WHEN ADMINISTERED TO FILLIES AND MARES (E.G. REGUMATE®)

ANTIPARASITICS APPROVED AND REGISTERED FOR USE IN HORSES
OMEPRAZOLE (E.G. GASTROZOL®, OMOGUARD®)
CHONDROITIN SULPHATE (E.G. COSEQUIN EQUINE®)
GLUCOSAMINE (E.G. JOINT GUARD®)



CROWN EQUINE
VETERINARY SERVICES

CREATED WITH ASSISTANCE FROM DR BEN MASON

IF YOU ARE UNSURE PLEASE CONTACT RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS OR THE DEPARTMENT OF EQUINE WELFARE AND VETERINARY SERVICES (03) 9258 4258 OR
GRACE FORBES 0406 750 390 DION VILLELLA 0407 877 679



APPLYING THE DEFINITION OF 'ONE CLEAR DAY' THE RULE AR178AA MAKES IT AN OFFENCE TO ADMINISTER, ATTEMPT TO ADMINISTER OR CAUSE TO BE ADMINISTERED ANY SUBSTANCE THAT MEETS THE DEFINITION WITHIN THE RULE OF 'ALKALINISING AGENT'.

FOR THE PURPOSES OF AR178AA, AN ALKALINISING AGENT IS ANY SUBSTANCE THAT MAY ELEVATE THE PLASMA TCO₂ OF A HORSE, WHEN ADMINISTERED BY ANY ROUTE, WITH THE EXCEPTION OF BALANCED, COMMERCIAL ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENTS WHICH MAY CONTAIN SOME ALKALINISING AGENTS, BUT WHICH CAN BE DEMONSTRATED TO HAVE NEGLIGIBLE EFFECTS ON PLASMA TCO₂ WHEN ADMINISTERED IN FEED ACCORDING TO THE MANUFACTURER'S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NORMAL DAILY USE.

AR 178AA [PROHIBITS THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALKALINISING AGENTS BY ANY ROUTE WITHIN THE ONE CLEAR DAY OF RACING, INCLUDING IN THE FEED.](#)

ALKALINISING AGENTS THAT MUST NOT BE ADMINISTERED EITHER ON THE DAY OF THE RACE OR WITHIN THE ONE CLEAR DAY OF RACING INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO, BICARBONATES, CITRATES, SUCCINATES, ACETATES, PROPIONATES, MALEATES, LACTATES AND TROMETAMOL (THAM, TRIS BUFFER OR TROMETAMINE) AND ALSO INCLUDE PRODUCTS MARKETED AS URINARY ALKALINISERS AND HIND GUT BUFFERS.

PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN ALKALINISING AGENTS



BICARBONATE SODA

PRODUCTS THAT CONTAIN ALKALINISING AGENTS AND WHICH FALL WITHIN THE DEFINITION INCLUDE PROPRIETARY FORMULATIONS SUCH AS:
SODIUM BICARBONATE ("BICARB"), BALADENE®, LANG'S SOLUTION® FOR INTRAVENOUS USE, NEUTRA-SYRUP®, NEUTRALKA®, NEUTROLENE®, NEUTROLENE PLUS® AND NEUTRADEX® AND ANY OTHER PRODUCTS THAT ARE MARKETED AS LACTIC ACID BUFFERING OR NEUTRALISING PRODUCTS.

[THESE PRODUCTS MUST NOT BE ADMINISTERED WITHIN ONE CLEAR DAY PRIOR TO RACING OR PRIOR TO COMPETING IN AN OFFICIAL TRIAL.](#)



KER EQUISHURE®



BALADENE®



RANVETS NEUTROLENE®



ELECTROLYTE REPLACER B®



CARBINE CHEMICALS CARBELYTE®



CARBINE CHEMICALS CARBALENE®



CARBINE CHEMICALS RELOAD®



LANGS SOLUTION®



RANVETS NEUTROLENE PLUS®



NEUTRADEX®

PRODUCTS PICTURED ABOVE ARE ONLY A SMALL SELECTION OF THE ACTUAL PRODUCTS AVAILABLE. PLEASE SEEK ADVICE FOR OTHER INDIVIDUAL PRODUCTS.

BALANCED ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENTS AND POTASSIUM SUPPLEMENTS

[BALANCED ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENTS AND POTASSIUM SUPPLEMENTS THAT CONTAIN ELECTROLYTES MAY BE ADMINISTERED ORALLY IN NORMALLY RECOMMENDED AMOUNTS WITHIN THE ONE CLEAR DAY BUT NOT ON RACEDAY PRIOR TO RACING.](#)

EXAMPLES OF NORMAL BALANCED ELECTROLYTE PRODUCTS WOULD INCLUDE SUCH PROPRIETARY PREPARATIONS AS APPLYTE GEL®, ELECTROMIX®, ELECTRO PASTE®, ELECTROVITE PASTE®, ENDURA-MAX®, ENDURA-MAX PASTE®, EQUICHARGE®, HORSPORE®, HUMIDIMIX®, KELATOLYTE ELECTROLYTE REPLACER®, RANVET ELECTROLYTES®, RECHARGE®, RESTORE® AND VETSENSE®.



ELECTRO PASTE®

[COMMERCIAL ELECTROLYTE SUPPLEMENTS WHICH MAY CONTAIN SOME ALKALINISING AGENTS BUT WHICH SHOULD HAVE NEGLIGIBLE EFFECTS ON PLASMA TCO₂ WHEN ADMINISTERED IN FEED](#) ACCORDING TO THE MANUFACTURERS' RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NORMAL DAILY USE INCLUDE EQUILYTE®, RACE ELECTROLYTE®, AND SALKAVITE®.

[INTRAVENOUS SOLUTION MUST NOT BE ADMINISTERED WITHIN ONE CLEAR DAY PRIOR TO RACING \(AR178A\)](#)

COMMERCIAL BALANCED INTRAVENOUS SOLUTIONS THAT CAN BE USED UP TO AND INCLUDING THE DAY PRIOR TO AN OFFICIAL TRIAL INCLUDE DARROW'S SOLUTION®, HARTMANN'S SOLUTION® AND LACTATED RINGERS.



SALKAVITE®

IF YOU ARE UNSURE PLEASE CONTACT RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS OR THE DEPARTMENT OF EQUINE WELFARE AND VETERINARY SERVICES (03) 9258 4258 OR GRACE FORBES 0406 750 390 DION VILLELLA 0407 877 679



A FUNDAMENTAL PRINCIPLE OF AUSTRALIAN RACING IS THAT HORSES MUST RACE FREE OF THE PHARMACOLOGICAL (OR TOXICOLOGICAL) EFFECT OF DRUGS OR OTHER SUBSTANCES.

TO ASSIST IN MAINTAINING THIS PRINCIPLE, IT IS NOT PERMITTED TO ADMINISTER ANY MEDICATION TO A HORSE ON RACE DAY PRIOR TO IT RUNNING IN A RACE [AR 178E(1)].

“MEDICATION” MEANS ANY TREATMENT WITH DRUGS OR OTHER SUBSTANCES.

AS A GENERAL PRINCIPLE, ANY SUBSTANCE ADMINISTERED WITH THE INTENT OR HOPE OF ACHIEVING A PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECT / THERAPEUTIC EFFECT WILL BE CONSIDERED AS A MEDICATION UNDER THE RULES.

PRODUCTS THAT CLAIM TO PROVIDE PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS AND TO BE UNDETECTABLE.

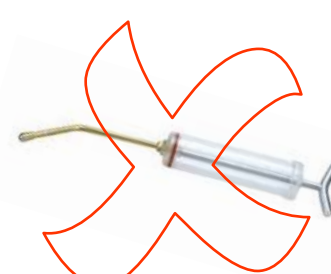
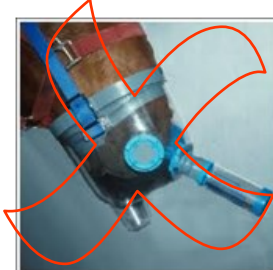
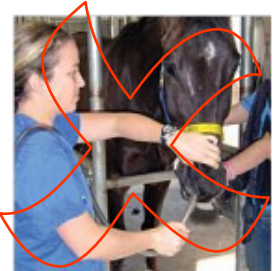
THERE ARE NUMEROUS PRODUCTS, OFTEN HERBAL OR HOMEOPATHIC PREPARATIONS, THAT CLAIM TO PROVIDE SIGNIFICANT PHARMACOLOGICAL EFFECTS SUCH AS A DIURETIC ACTION, ANALGESIA, ANTI-INFLAMMATORY ACTIONS OR BRONCHODILATOR ACTIONS AND ALSO CLAIM TO BE UNDETECTABLE BY LABORATORY TESTING.

THESE TYPES OF PRODUCTS FALL WITHIN THE DEFINITION OF A MEDICATION AND ARE NOT ALLOWED TO BE ADMINISTERED TO A HORSE ON RACE DAY PRIOR TO A RACE.

ROUTES OF ADMINISTRATION OF MEDICATION NOT PERMITTED ON RACE DAY

ANY SUBSTANCE ADMINISTERED TO A HORSE ON RACEDAY PRIOR TO RACING BY INJECTION, STOMACH TUBE, PASTE, DOSE SYRINGE, TOPICAL APPLICATION OR BY INHALATION, AMONGST ANY OTHER ROUTES OF ADMINISTRATION, WILL BE CONSIDERED A MEDICATION.

ONLY NORMAL FEEDING AND SUPPLEMENTATION, ACCORDING TO MANUFACTURE’S RECOMMENDATIONS FOR NORMAL DAILY USE, THAT CAN BE ACHIEVED BY THE HORSE VOLUNTARILY EATING OR DRINKING THE FEEDSTUFF CAN BE CONSIDERED ACCEPTABLE ON THE DAY OF RACING.



PHYSICAL THERAPIES NOT PERMITTED ON RACE DAY

THE FOLLOWING PHYSICAL TREATMENTS ARE NOT PERMITTED, BY ORDER OF THE STEWARDS, TO BE USED AT ANYTIME BEFORE RACING ON THE DAY OF RACING.

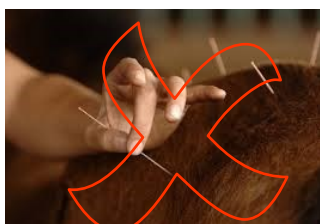
PHYSICAL TREATMENTS WHICH ARE NOT TO BE GIVEN ON RACE DAY INCLUDE, BUT ARE NOT LIMITED TO:

ACUPUNCTURE (INCLUDING LASER AND INFRA-RED TREATMENT)
TRANSCUTANEOUS ELECTRICAL NERVE STIMULATION (TENS)

MAGNETIC FIELD THERAPY
AND ANY OTHER FORM OF ELECTRICAL STIMULATION

THERAPEUTIC ULTRASOUND

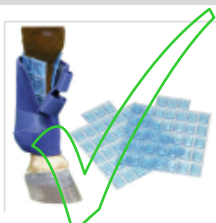
EXTRA- CORPOREAL SHOCK WAVE (ESWT) TREATMENT OF RACEHORSES IS PROHIBITED FOR SEVEN (7) CLEAR DAYS PRIOR TO RACING (AR 64H).



PERMITTED ON RACE DAY

APPLICATION OF ICE/COLD WATER TO MUSCULOSKELETAL STRUCTURES

THE APPLICATION OF ICE OR CHILLED WATER, WHIRLPOOL BOOTS OR SYSTEMS SUCH AS ‘GAME READY’, TO MUSCULOSKELETAL STRUCTURES ON THE MORNING OF THE RACE DAY ARE PERMITTED BUT ARE NOT PERMITTED ON THE RACECOURSE PRIOR TO A HORSE RUNNING IN A RACE.



SEEK PERMISSION — TOPICAL APPLICATIONS

WHILE TOPICAL APPLICATIONS ARE CONSIDERED TO BE MEDICATIONS, CIRCUMSTANCES MAY ARISE WHEN A HORSE MAY SUFFER A MINOR INJURY, THAT DOES NOT AFFECT ITS SUITABILITY TO RACE BUT WOULD BENEFIT FROM THE PROPHYLACTIC APPLICATION OF A TOPICAL ANTIBIOTIC OR ANTISEPTIC.

IN SUCH CIRCUMSTANCES, A TRAINER MUST APPLY PRIOR TO THE STEWARDS FOR PERMISSION TO ADMINISTER THE MEDICATION.



THE APPLICATION OF HOOF OILS

THE APPLICATION OF ROUTINE HOOF OILS IS PERMITTED ON THE DAY OF RACING, EXCEPT IF THAT PRODUCTS CONTAINS MEDICATIONS OR HERBS THAT CLAIM THERAPEUTIC EFFECTS SUCH AS ANALGESIA OR ANTI-INFLAMMATORY ACTIONS.



BABY OIL & PETROLEUM JELLY

BABY OIL & PETROLEUM JELLY ARE PERMITTED.



SHAMPOOS & FLY SPRAYS

SHAMPOOS & FLY SPRAYS ARE PERMITTED.

VIBRATORY MASSAGE

VIBRATORY MASSAGE SYSTEMS MAY BE USED IN THE STABLE ON THE MORNING OF THE RACE DAY BUT ARE NOT PERMITTED ON THE RACECOURSE.



IF YOU ARE UNSURE PLEASE CONTACT RACING VICTORIA STEWARDS OR THE DEPARTMENT OF EQUINE WELFARE AND VETERINARY SERVICES (03) 9258 4258 OR GRACE FORBES 0406 750 390 DION VILLELLA 0407 877 679



**Racing
Victoria**

NOTICE TO TRAINERS

Racing Australia (Stable Assist) has the capability for trainers to enter the precise location of a horse under their care when not stabled at the trainers approved training location.

For example: When a horse is "Spelling, "Retired" or "Active Non-Stable Training (water walker, pre training or beach work)", the trainer must immediately lodge a new stable return, entering the horses status and the precise location in the corresponding fields in accordance with Local Rule 27(3);

LR 27 Stable returns

(3) **Amendments to stable returns:** The trainer must lodge an amendment to a stable return on the authorised form provided for the purpose if:

- (a) any particulars on the stable return have changed; or
- (b) a horse leaves or joins his or her stable.

Return Number: 17	Lodged By: RVL Stewards
Date Of Entry: 30/01/2017	
Horse Left Stable: Active-Non Stable Training ▼	Sex: Gelding ▼
Address: 400 Epsom Rd	
Suburb: Flemington	PostCode: 3031
State: Vic ▼	
Left Stable Comments: Water Walker	
Blinkers: Currently off	Set Blinkers? <input type="radio"/> Yes <input checked="" type="radio"/> No

Trainers are further advised that under the provisions of LR27A, they are still required to submit a "Horse Movement Application Form" if they wish to relocate their horse from the time of entry to the arrival on course prior to racing. This application must be approved by the stewards prior to the horse leaving the trainers approved training location.

The horse movement application form is located on the rv.racing.com website.

LR 27A Stabling prior to race

- (1) Where a horse has been entered for any race, unless the permission of the Stewards has been granted, from time of entry to arrival on course prior to racing, the horse in question shall be stabled only at the premises from which the horse's trainer is licensed to train.
- (2) Where a horse is entered for a race in which the entries close more than 60 days prior to the advertised date for the running of the race, sub-rule (1) shall not apply from the time of entry, but shall apply from the period commencing 6 days prior to the advertised date for the running of the race.
- (3) In this rule, a horse is "stabled" if it is stabled, yarded, or otherwise confined in any manner for any period of time, but does not apply to a horse that is being transported.
- (4) The trainer and any other person who was in charge of a horse at a time relevant to sub-rule (1) or (2) and who in the opinion of the Stewards has breached, or was a party to breaching sub-rule (1) or (2) may be penalised, and the horse concerned may be withdrawn from the race or disqualified. [amended 1/9/09]

Integrity Services will be conducting audits to ensure that the precise location of all horses trained by them are stabled as per the location in the stable return.

NOTICE TO TRAINERS: ADVICE ON THE USE OF INDOMETHACIN IN RACEHORSES



Indomethacin is a potent non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug and so is a prohibited Substance under AR. 178B(2). The product Cu-Algesic®, which contains Indomethacin, is registered for use in horses. Indomethacin is also available in numerous human preparations for oral, parenteral and topical use.

Indomethacin is a Schedule 4 Drug, which is a Prescription Only Medicine, the use or supply of which should only be by or on the order of a registered Veterinarian.

Trainers are reminded that it is difficult to make any reliable predictions about the clearance of Indomethacin from horses based on the information available. This is especially so if multiple doses or exposures to the drug have occurred. Further, similar to other non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, there is a high risk of contamination in racing stables by the use of Indomethacin in other horses.

There is very limited information is available on the excretion of Indomethacin in horses.

It is generally noted that:

- Large doses of Indomethacin may result in longer clearance times than smaller doses.
- Multiple doses or exposures to Indomethacin may result in longer clearance times than a single dose or exposure.
- Different pharmaceutical preparations of Indomethacin may have different bioavailabilities of the drug which may result in different clearance times.
- Environmental contamination with Indomethacin may result in horses being contaminated with the drug and cause a positive detection in urine collected from a horse.

Racing Victoria considers that the only safe way for trainers to avoid contravening the prohibited substance offence rules with Indomethacin is to obtain veterinary advice in relation to any administration of Indomethacin and not to administer multiple doses of Indomethacin to racehorses.

Trainers are advised that an elective non-raceday test should be obtained from any horse treated with multiple doses of Indomethacin prior to racing.

Products registered for use in horses are registered with the APVMA. Such products are identifiable by their labels which contain an APVMA Approval Number. Racing Victoria considers the administration of unregistered products to racehorses (at any time) presents a high risk of contravening of the prohibited substance rule.

January 2017

Please direct any queries to the Racing Victoria Department of Veterinary Services.

NOTICE TO TRAINERS: SPECIFIED SUBSTANCES FOR OUT-OF-COMPETITION TESTING



AR.177B(2) is the list of specified substances and categories of substances for the purposes of the out-of-competition testing rule AR.177B.

The list must be periodically updated to include new substances and classes of substances that are identified by Racing Australia as risks to the integrity of racing and or to the welfare of horses.

The updated AR.177B(2) contains three additional classes of substances and a change in order to a more logical progression.

Racing Australia is of the view that these three substances have no place in the treatment of racehorses and that their use is a risk to the integrity of racing and the welfare of horses.

The three new categories of substances in the re-ordered list AR.177B(2) are:

- (i) AR.177B(2) (g) haematopoietic growth factors, including but not limited to filgrastim.
- (ii) AR.177B(2) (l) corticotrophins, including adrenocorticotrophic hormone (ACTH) and tetracosactrin (tetracosactide), and corticotrophin releasing factors.
- (iii) AR.177B(2) (w) zoledronic acid and any other bisphosphonate drug not registered for veterinary use in Australia.

Date of Effect: 1 November 2016

According to AR. 177B(5) any person who has in his possession any substance or preparation that could give rise to an offence under AR. 177B(2) if administered to a horse at any time shall be guilty of an offence and may be penalised.

Please direct any queries to the Racing Victoria Department of Veterinary Services.



SCREENING LIMITS POLICY

Integrity Services
400 Epsom Road
Flemington Vic 3031, Australia

Adopted By:	Veterinarian Department – RV Integrity Services
Issued By:	Veterinarian Department – RV Integrity Services
Original Date Issued:	1 October 2012
Review Date:	6 September 2016

Over time, ongoing research and development and the introduction of new technologies by racing laboratories means that analytical equipment and methods improve, resulting in increased sensitivity of analysis in the testing of prohibited substances, and therefore lower limits of detection. Increased sensitivity of analysis means that a substance present in a sample at a certain concentration which was not able to be detected in the year 2000 may be able to be detected using the analytical equipment and methods available in 2015.

In the case of illicit performance-modifying substances which have no legitimate role or accepted therapeutic use in racehorses, increased sensitivity of analysis is a positive development. It is vital that the racing laboratories harness the full capabilities of modern science to detect the presence of such substances at any level.

However, as a matter of policy Racing Australia does not believe it is necessary to employ highly sensitive methods of analysis for those therapeutic substances which do have a legitimate place in the racing industry, including for welfare reasons.

It is for this reason, as well as the desire for objectivity, transparency and international harmonisation that the concept of **screening limits** for certain therapeutic substances has been developed. The therapeutic substances assigned screening limits are some commonly-used equine medications representing a range of therapeutic classes, including nonsteroidal antiinflammatory drugs, corticosteroids, local anaesthetics and tranquillisers.

Screening Limits

Along with most other international racing jurisdictions, Racing Australia has approved the development of formal screening limits for certain therapeutic substances. These therapeutic substances include phenylbutazone, flunixin and lignocaine as examples. The screening limit is the concentration of a particular therapeutic substance (or its metabolite) in urine or plasma above which the racing laboratory will call the sample positive. Their adoption will be facilitated by the introduction of new Rule AR178EA on 1 October 2012 (see below).

Each screening limit has been derived from previous administration studies involving horses, followed by a risk analysis consisting of two components: a risk assessment (evaluation of the effect of the substance and factors related to its control) and a risk management (decision step for harmonisation). Screening limits are harmonised detection limits agreed following input by international consensus and are conveyed by instruction from racing authorities to their racing laboratories. The screening limits are simply the detection limits to be used by the laboratories when screening for certain specified therapeutic substances; they are not international thresholds. When the screening procedure in the first laboratory

indicates the screening limit for the particular substance has been exceeded, all that is required is qualitative confirmatory analysis (usually by mass spectrometry) to confirm the presence of the prohibited substance. Similarly, when the reserve portion of the sample is referred to the second (referee) laboratory, all that is required is qualitative confirmatory analysis to confirm the presence of the prohibited substance.

Screening limits do not affect liability

The implementation of screening limits in racing is not intended and does not operate to mean that for the purpose of the Rules of Racing the therapeutic substance only becomes a prohibited substance if and when the screening limit is exceeded.

It shall not be a defence to any charge under AR177, AR177A or AR178 that the result of any initial screening test should have been below the screening limit for the therapeutic substance in question.

Advice of detection periods

Industry participants are advised that information on the detection periods for many of the therapeutic drugs assigned screening limits is available. "Detection Times for Equine Therapeutics" was produced by the consortium that was responsible for the 2012 RIRDC research publications entitled "The Pharmacokinetics of Equine Medications" and "Detecting Three Common Drugs in Horses" for those therapeutic substances studied that have a screening limit. These publications are available on the RIRDC website and the Racing Victoria website.

It must be noted that 'Detection Times' are not equivalent to safe 'Recommended Withdrawal Periods'. There are numerous factors that may affect the clearance of a drug from a horse's system.

In making any decision regarding the administration of a prohibited substance to a horse that is entered to race, industry participants are reminded of their responsibilities in undertaking the appropriate level of due diligence and risk analysis in researching the available information on detection periods, including the seeking of veterinary advice and adding an adequate safety margin. Participants are advised to take a conservative approach, and consider all variables such as dose, length of treatment and route of administration, when calculating withdrawal times for therapeutic substances where information on detection times is available.

Participants are also advised that a best-practice approach would dictate that no medication, irrespective of its detection period, should be given within 2 clear days of racing.

AR 178EA

(1) In relation to the testing for the presence of a therapeutic substance in a sample taken at any time from a horse there must be an initial screening test or screening analysis of the sample.

(2) As a minimum requirement, the initial screening test or screening analysis is to be conducted as follows:

- (a) A biological matrix, equivalent in volume to the sample, is to have added to it a quantity of the therapeutic substance, or its specified metabolite, sufficient to bring its concentration to the screening limit specified for that therapeutic substance. This is known as the spiked sample and is to be analysed concurrently with the sample.

- (b) The sample is then to be tested to ascertain whether or not it contains a quantity of the therapeutic substance, or its specified metabolite, that exceeds that screening limit by making a direct comparison with the spiked sample.
- (c) If the screening limit is not exceeded, the detection of the therapeutic substance is not to be reported.
- (d) If the screening limit is exceeded then the sample is to be further tested in accordance with normal laboratory procedures designed to certify the presence of the therapeutic substance in the sample.
- (3) A therapeutic substance for the purpose of this Rule and the screening limit applicable to it or its specified metabolite shall be promulgated from time to time by the Australian Racing Board and published in the Racing Calendar.
- (4) The screening limit testing provided for in this Rule is not intended and does not operate to mean that for the purpose of the Rules the therapeutic substance only becomes a prohibited substance if and when the screening limit is exceeded.
- (5) It shall not be a defence to any charge under AR 177, AR 177A or AR 178 that the result of any initial screening test or screening analysis should have been below the screening limit for the therapeutic substance in question.

New AR.1 Definitions:

“therapeutic substance” means a prohibited substance to which a screening limit applies, and which is promulgated as such from time to time by the Australian Racing Board and published in the Racing Calendar.

“screening limit” means the concentration of a therapeutic substance or its specified metabolite present in a sample during a screening test or analysis as specified in AR 178EA(2), above which the therapeutic substance will be notified as a prohibited substance.

For the purpose of AR 178EA, it is hereby notified that screening limits applicable to the following therapeutic substances, as approved by Racing Australia, are set out as follows:

- acepromazine – 0.02 nanograms per millilitre (ng/mL) in plasma
- acepromazine – 10ng/mL of the 2-(1-hydroxyethyl) promazine sulfoxide metabolite in urine
- betamethasone – 0.20ng/mL in urine
- butorphanol – 0.01ng/mL in plasma
- butorphanol – 1ng/mL in urine
- carprofen – 100ng/mL in plasma
- carprofen – 100ng/mL in urine
- dantrolene – 1ng/mL of the 5-hydroxydantrolene metabolite in unhydrolysed urine
- detomidine – 0.02ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxydetomidine metabolite in plasma
- detomidine – 2ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxydetomidine metabolite in urine
- dexamethasone – 0.2ng/mL in urine
- diclofenac – 50ng/mL in urine
- dipyron – 1000ng/mL of the 4-methylaminoantipyrine metabolite in urine
- eltenac – 50ng/mL in urine
- flunixin – 1ng/mL in plasma
- flunixin – 100ng/mL in urine
- frusemide – 0.1ng/mL in plasma
- frusemide – 50ng/mL in urine
- hyoscine butylbromide (or n-butylscopolammonium) – 0.05ng/mL in plasma
- hyoscine butylbromide (or n-butylscopolammonium) – 25ng/mL in urine
- ipratropium – 0.25ng/mL in urine
- ketoprofen – 100ng/mL in urine
- lignocaine – 0.05ng/mL in plasma
- lignocaine – 10ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxylignocaine metabolite in urine

- meclofenamic acid – 5ng/mL in plasma
- meclofenamic acid – 250ng/mL in urine
- meloxicam – 1ng/mL in plasma
- meloxicam – 10ng/mL in urine
- mepivacaine – 0.05ng/mL in plasma
- mepivacaine – 10ng/mL of the 3'-hydroxymepivacaine metabolite in urine
- methocarbamol – 100ng/mL in urine (when restricted to a single oral or IV treatment of no more than 5 grams of methocarbamol)
- naproxen – 250ng/mL in urine
- phenylbutazone – 100ng/mL in plasma
- phenylbutazone – 100ng/mL in urine
- romifidine – 1ng/mL in urine
- salbutamol – 0.5ng/mL in urine
- triamcinolone acetonide – 0.5ng/mL in urine
- vedaprofen – 50ng/mL in urine

Date of Effect: 1 July 2016

NOTICE TO TRAINERS: P-BLOCK & OTHER UNREGISTERED INJECTABLE PRODUCTS



Racing Victoria Stewards are aware of the existence of products labelled or known as “P Block”, “P Block Injection” and “Sarapin”, and other unregistered injectable products for horses containing, or purporting to contain, sarraceniaceae (Pitcher Plant).

The Racing Victoria Stewards remind trainers that AR 80E provides as follows:

- 1) Any person commits an offence if he has in his possession or on his premises any substance or preparation that has not been registered or labelled, or prescribed, dispensed or obtained, in compliance with the relevant State or Commonwealth legislation.
- 2) The Stewards may take possession of any substance or preparation mentioned in sub-rule (1), and may use it as evidence in any relevant proceedings.

The Stewards give notice to all trainers that:

1. products labelled or known as “P Block”, “P Block Injection” and “Sarapin” are not registered in accordance with Victorian and/or Commonwealth legislation and are therefore not permitted to be in a trainer’s possession or on his or her premises under AR 80E;
2. any other injectable product that contains, or purports to contain, sarraceniaceae (Pitcher Plant) as its active ingredient is highly likely not to be registered in compliance with Victorian and/or Commonwealth legislation and the possession of such substances therefore may lead to the commission of an offence under AR 80E.

Date of Effect: 23 January 2017

The Stewards direct all trainers not to administer or cause to be administered, at any time, any product labelled or known as “P Block”, “P Block Injection” and “Sarapin” or any other unregistered injectable product that contains or purports to contain sarraceniaceae (Pitcher Plant) as its active ingredient.

Trainers are again warned of the dangers of having on their premises and using on their horses any unregistered products, particularly those for injection. Many of these products are not properly labelled, do not list (or accurately list) their active ingredients, and may be contaminated with other prohibited substances, including those listed in AR 177B(2) (prohibited substances which must not be administered at any time).

Please direct any queries to the Racing Victoria Department of Veterinary Services.

NOTICE TO TRAINERS: CUSTOM-MADE PRODUCTS



The Racing Victoria Integrity Department is aware that some Trainers are having manufacturers prepare custom-made horse feeds, feed additives, and/or supplements. It is understood that some manufacturers are not listing:

- a. all active constituents; and/or
 - b. the concentration of all active constituents
- on the labels, packaging or elsewhere of their custom-made products.

Amongst other things, this makes it difficult for Trainers to fully understand what the active constituents of their horses' feeds and supplements are, and what the concentrations of those constituents are administering to their horses.

Trainers are reminded of their obligations to know what they are feeding, and/or administering to, their horses, including the concentrations of active constituents of any products used by them. In the event that trainers are not aware of the active constituents of their horses' feeds, feed additives and/or supplements (and the concentrations of such constituents), they should:

- a. exercise caution in feeding such products to their horses; and
- b. take immediate steps to ascertain the active constituents of their horses' feeds, feed additives and/or supplements (and the concentrations of such constituents).

Date: 18 September 2017

Please direct any queries to the Racing Victoria Department of Veterinary Services.



APPLICATION FOR RE-INSTATEMENT RETIRED RACEHORSES

Retirement of a Horse

As per Australian Rule of Racing 64JA, when a decision has been made to retire an Eligible Horse, the manager or authorized agent must notify Racing Australia within one month of that decision by updating the stable return or lodge the relevant retirement form prescribed by Racing Australia.

Where a form has been lodged according to AR 64J to retire a horse that horse ceases to be eligible to race or be trained and is ineligible to race or be trained unless it is reinstated to race or to be trained.

A retired horse may not be reinstated to be trained or to race except with the express permission of the Stewards. The Stewards of the relevant Principal Racing Authority must grant this permission before the horse returns to a licensed premises.

Any person who fails to comply with AR 64JA commits a breach of the Rules and may be penalised.

The Process for Reinstatement of a Retired Horse

The reinstatement of a retired horse to be trained and race requires the express permission of the Stewards. This permission for reinstatement should be obtained before the retired horse enters a trainer's premises.

To seek permission of the Stewards to reinstate a retired horse, a trainer must complete and submit the **Application for Reinstatement - Retired Racehorses** form (see below). The application requires a veterinary examination specifying the reasons for retirement and an assessment of the horse's suitability to return to training and racing. Once submitted, the report will be considered by RVL Veterinary Services and further examinations and or tests may be requested. Consideration of the horse's welfare in resuming training and racing will be a major factor in assessing the application.

Only the Stewards hold authority for approval to reinstate the horse.

Trainers are reminded that a stable return must be lodged within 48 hours of a horse entering their stable (AR 54). Any person who fails to comply with AR 54 commits a breach of the Rules and may be penalised.

Official Trial must be completed before nomination to race

All horses approved by the Stewards to be reinstated to train must compete satisfactorily in an Official Trial and the trainer must submit a satisfactory Veterinary Clearance to race (based on an examination after the Official Trial) prior to gaining approval to race.

For further information regarding reinstatement of a retired horse please contact the Stewards at Racing Victoria on 03 9258 4258.



APPLICATION FOR RE-INSTATEMENT RETIRED RACEHORSES

Once completed, please return via email to Racing Victoria Veterinary Department at v.admin@racingvictoria.net.au *Note: ownership disputes and horse history will be investigated by the Stewards and the Licensing Regulation Unit prior to a decision being made.

Date:	
Horse Name:	
Trainer Name:	

BRANDS		DESCRIPTION	
		Sex	
Left Side		Colour	
	Right Side		

I certify that I have examined the above horse, which requires a Veterinary Certificate to assess its suitability for reinstatement as a racehorse after having been retired from racing for the following reason: _____
(provide details), at _____ on
_____/_____/_____
(Horse's Location)

The above diagnosis and prognosis for the condition was established after the following examination(s) were performed (*please tick*):

- ☐ Physical Examination
- ☐ Radiographic Examination
- ☐ Endoscopic Examination
- ☐ Ultrasound Examination
- ☐ Bone Scan
- ☐ MRI
- ☐ Other (*Please explain*)

In my opinion, the horse is currently in a suitable condition to resume training and be reinstated as a racehorse for the following reason(s):

Veterinary Surgeon Name

Signature

VPRBV Registration Number:

Office Use Only:

Date Received: _____

Approved to Re-instate: Yes / No

Reason(s): _____

Racing Victoria Veterinary Surgeon

Signature

Racing Victoria Stipendiary Steward

Signature

Racing Australia Notified: _____ Date

Trainer/Owner Notified: _____ Date

NOTICE TO TRAINERS: ARSENIC



The Racing Victoria (RV) Integrity Department reminds Trainers of their obligations under the Rules to take all proper precautions to ensure horses are presented for racing with no prohibited substances (as defined in AR1) detected in their systems.

Trainers are reminded that arsenic is a prohibited substance when present at or above a mass concentration of 0.30 milligrams per litre in urine.

The Integrity Department provides notice that a recent study, in Australia, concluded that it is possible that arsenic levels in horse urine may be elevated following the ingestion by a horse of Chromated Copper Arsenate (CCA) treated pine timber.

RV considers it prudent for Trainers and industry participants to conduct an audit of their facilities to ensure they eliminate access of racehorses in their care to CCA treated pine timber products, or any other products that may present a similar risk.

In addition, Trainers and industry participants are reminded that some registered veterinary products contain arsenic based compounds, some of these include:

Arcyl Solution for Injection, Ferrocyl injection, Troy Invigorate Injection and Jurocyl Injection.

Trainers are reminded to avoid using these preparations close to racing. A useful guideline is not to administer a single dose of these preparations within 5 clear days of racing. Multiple administrations will prolong this period, so caution must be exercised if administering them on consecutive days.

The administration of any of these preparations must be recorded according to the provisions of AR 178F.

It is recommended that veterinary advice be sought before any of the preparations above and or any other preparations containing arsenic are administered.

A trainer may be penalised if arsenic is detected at or above the threshold in any sample.

Date: November 2017

Please direct any queries to the Racing Victoria Department of Veterinary Services.

Friday, 09 February 2018

Notice to Veterinarians

Neurectomies in Thoroughbred Racehorses

Racing Victoria has received information that neurectomies are still being performed on Thoroughbred racehorses.

Trainers and Veterinarians are reminded that desensitisation, both temporary and permanent, of the limb by any means is prohibited under AR 64B. This includes but is not limited to, desensitisation by the use of Pitcher plant extracts, ammonium chloride, alcohol, cryotherapy or any invasive surgical technique.

Owners (or their agent, e.g. Trainers) of horses that have been subjected to any form of neurectomy must notify the Stewards as soon as is practicable.

RV considers that use of physical or veterinary procedures or medication to mask the effects or signs of injury to allow training or racing to the detriment of the horse's health and welfare, have no place in the treatment or management of horses.

RV expects that all medication, supplementation, physical therapy and surgical procedures administered or performed upon a horse are ethically and medically justifiable and always done in the best interests of the horse's health, safety and welfare.

The Australian Veterinary Association Ltd. Code of Conduct and the various Veterinary Practice Acts require that veterinarians comply with all legislation relevant to their area of practice, including any competitive equine activity.

ENDS

Contact: Grace Forbes – General Manager of Veterinary Services
P: (03) 9258 4644 E: g.forbes@racingvictoria.net.au

AR 64B

- (1) *A horse that has had a limb neurectomy or any artificial form of permanent limb desensitisation is ineligible for any race, official trial, jump-out or trackwork.*
- (2) *A horse that has had any artificial form of temporary limb desensitisation is ineligible for any race, official trial, jump-out or to participate in trackwork for such time as the Stewards may specify.*
- (3) *Notwithstanding the provisions of sub-rule (1) of this rule, a horse that had a palmar digital neurectomy prior to 1st September 1999 is eligible to race provided that prior to 1st September 1999 the details of the surgery undergone have been endorsed on the Document of Description for the horse, and the Stewards have received and accepted from a qualified veterinarian a written certificate of fitness of the horse to race.*
- (4) *In the event of a horse undergoing neurectomy surgery or any artificial form of permanent limb desensitisation the owner of the horse or his agent shall as soon as practicable notify the Stewards, who shall then ensure that:*
 - (a) *details of the surgery or artificial desensitisation and the horse's ineligibility to race are recorded in the National Stewards Embargo Register; and*
 - (b) *if applicable, the Document of Description for the horse is endorsed with details of the surgery or artificial desensitisation and the horse's ineligibility to race.*

AVA Code of conduct for veterinarians involved in the horse racing industry

Veterinarians involved in the horse racing industry:

- should be aware of and comply with the rules of racing
- should cooperate with any reasonable requests by stewards and racing officials to attend any inquiry and furnish any relevant records (provided there is no breach of client/patient confidentiality)
- should ensure that their conduct is not regarded as prejudicial to the image, interests or welfare of racing or the veterinary profession
- must avoid making media statements that are not based on accepted veterinary principles
- must not make or appear to make statements on behalf of the horse racing industry or the veterinary profession, unless empowered to do so by the industry or profession
- must abide by relevant federal and state legislation in relation to the supply and dispensing of medications, and ensure that drugs dispensed are approved by relevant authorities and are correctly labelled
- must comply with reasonable requests from the Ethics and Advisory Subcommittee of the EVA.

Date of ratification by AVA Board 23 November 1997

AVA Policy - Distal limb neurectomy

Policy: Distal limb neurectomy in appropriate and selected cases is an acceptable and useful treatment option for chronic irreversible heel pain causing lameness in horses.

The use of neurectomised horses in competitive events should be regulated by the sporting authorities and be subject to a specific Code of Practice or Standard of Practice.

The indiscriminate use of distal limb neurectomies is not supported.

Background: Distal limb neurectomy involves removal of part of the nerve to the hoof of the horse. It is performed in cases of ongoing irreversible heel pain. Opinion is divided on the merits of horses being allowed to compete in strenuous athletic events after distal limb neurectomy.

Guidelines: The welfare of the horse must be the major consideration before distal limb neurectomy is used as a treatment procedure.

Before performing a distal limb neurectomy, a veterinarian must be satisfied that the owner fully understands:

- all implications of the operation
- the possible side effects of the operation
- the requirement for continuing care of the horse after the operation
- that some sporting authorities prohibit horses from competition after distal limb neurectomy.

Date of ratification by AVA Board 8 July 2011



GUIDELINES FOR HORSES WITH WOUNDS

Veterinarian Department
400 Epsom Road
Flemington VIC 3031, Australia

Approved By: Veterinarian Department – RV Integrity Services
Issued By: Grace Forbes
Date Issued: 09 February 2018
Revised Date: 09 February 2019

Contents

- | | |
|----|--|
| 1. | Introduction |
| 2. | Background |
| 3. | Horses with Wounds |
| 4. | Application for a Horse with a Wound to Race or Official Trial |
-

1. Introduction

Horses with unhealed wounds should not participate in official trials or races.

Under limited circumstances the Stewards may grant permission for a horse with a wound to participate in an official trial or race. Trainers must comply with the provisions of AR 140 and notify the Stewards of any condition (including any wounds) or treatment that might impact on the horse's performance in a race.

AR 140 (in part)

- (a) The trainer of a horse that is included in the final acceptors for a race must:
 - (i) ensure that such horse is fit and properly conditioned to race; and
 - (ii) report to the Stewards:
 - (a) by acceptance time, any occurrence, condition, or treatment that may affect or impact on the horse's performance in the race where the occurrence takes place, condition is present or treatment is administered before acceptance time;
 - (b) as soon as is practicable, any occurrence, condition or treatment that may affect or impact on the horse's performance in the race where the occurrence takes place, condition is present or treatment is administered after acceptance time.

2. Background

Horses often are injured with wounds to skin and deeper structures. Any skin loss will prolong the healing time.

Where practicable and appropriate all wounds should be sutured with primary closure as soon as possible.

Horses with wounds away from joints, with a primary closure by sutures, at least 10 days old and healing normally may be given permission to trial and race. Some such wounds may benefit from covering by a bandage during competition.

Wounds in areas where there is likely to be prolonged healing might be covered with self-adhesive dressing and permitted to race. For example, wounds over the point of the hip may take a considerable time to contract and epithelialize. These can be covered to provide a better cosmetic effect without compromising the welfare of the horse and providing an acceptable cosmetic appearance in public.

3. Horses with Wounds

For consideration to permit a horse to trial or race, unhealed open wounds must:

- be away from joints and not susceptible to reinjury by galloping;
- be filled with healthy granulation tissue to the level of the surrounding skin;
- have a rim of healthy epithelial tissue at least 1 to 2 mm wide around the entire circumference;
- have minimal discharge;
- have a demonstrated history of actively contracting with a measurable reduction in wound area over the previous 2 weeks;
- not be over a sequestrum;
- have no foreign material embedded;
- not be causing the horse any obvious discomfort or lameness;
- where possible be able to be covered with an adhesive dressing that will not dislodge during the trial or race.

4. Application for a Horse with a Wound to Race or Official Trial

Where an application is made for a horse with a wound to compete in a race, the application must be accompanied by:

- (1) a photograph of the wound that taken is not more than 2 days before the scheduled race
- (2) a veterinary certificate outlining:
 - (i) the date the wound was inflicted on the horse
 - (ii) any veterinary treatments administered

- (iii) an opinion about the suitability (or otherwise) of the horse's ability to compete in the race.