



Equine Medication Monitoring Program

Drugs and Medication Guidelines



January 2025

Introduction

The California Equine Medication Monitoring Program (EMMP) is an industry-funded program to ensure the integrity of public equine events and sales in California through the control of performance and disposition enhancing drugs and permitting limited therapeutic use of drugs and medications. The EMMP and the equine industry is dedicated and committed to promote the health, welfare, and safety of the equine athlete.

Owners, trainers, exhibitors, veterinarians, and consignors of equines to public sales have a responsibility to be familiar with the California EMMP and the California Equine Medication Rule. California law (Food and Agricultural Code Sections 24000-24018) outlines the equine medication rule for public equine events in California. **The owner, trainer, and consignor have responsibility to ensure full compliance with all elements of the California Equine Medication Rule.** Owners, trainers, exhibitors, veterinarians, and consignors of equines to public sales must comply with both the California Equine Medication Rule and any sponsoring organization drug and medication rule for an event. **The more stringent medication rule applies for the event.** The California Equine Medication Rule is posted on the website:

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/emmp/

The information contained in this document provides advice regarding the California Equine Medication Rule and application of the rule to practical situations. The EMMP recognizes that situations arise where there is an indication for legitimate therapeutic treatment near the time of competition at equine events. The EMMP regulations permit the use of therapeutic medication in certain circumstances to accommodate legitimate therapy in compliance with the requirements of the rule. This document provides information on rules, regulations and general guidance to exhibitors, consignors, and veterinarians to help avoid inadvertent violations and to minimize the chances of positive drug detections.

Exempt Events

The following events are **exempt** from EMMP regulations:

- A rodeo-related competition, which is strictly a timed performance, with no subjective judging, held apart from a public equine event (Includes barrel racing, team penning, ranch sorting, ropings, and gymkhana).
- A sale of solely racehorses.
- Competitions under the jurisdiction of the California Horse Racing Board.

- A public equine event for which the class or event entry fee is less than \$5.00 per class and other fees do not exceed \$19.99. (Other fees include, but are not limited to, grounds fees, stall fees or office fees.)

Prohibited and Permissible Drugs

The California Equine Medication Rule classifies drugs as prohibited substances and permissible substances. A **prohibited substance** is defined as any drug or medication that is a stimulant, a depressant, a tranquilizer, an anesthetic including local anesthetic, an analgesic, an anabolic steroid, a corticosteroid (excluding dexamethasone) and a soring agent. A prohibited substance administered for therapeutic purposes must be **withdrawn 24 hours before a public competition or 72 hours before a public sale**. The rule requires filing of a Drug Declaration Form (CA Form 76-027 or United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) equivalent form) for any prohibited substance administered to an equine in the three (3) days before public competition or in the five (5) days before a public sale.

A **permissible substance** is a therapeutic drug or medicine, **or** a drug or medicine found in a sample within the established maximum detectable plasma or urine levels. There are nine (9) permissible drugs with restriction on the established maximum detectable plasma or urine levels. The nine (9) permissible medications, not to exceed maximum allowable levels, include: dexamethasone (Azium®), diclofenic acid (Surpass®), firocoxib (Equioxx®), flunixin (Banamine®), ketoprofen (Ketofen®), meclofenamic acid (Arquel®), methocarbamol (Robaxin®), naproxen (Naprosyn®), and phenylbutazone (Butazolidin®). See the table on pages 4-5, *Nine (9) Permissible Medications with Maximum Allowable Limit Restrictions - Dose and Time Recommendations*.

Therapeutic Use

The California Equine Medication Rule defines a **therapeutic drug or medicine** as a drug or medicine prescribed by a licensed veterinarian for the treatment of a diagnosed illness or injury. All drug and medication use must be for legitimate therapeutic purposes only. Administration of a prohibited substance for non-therapeutic purposes including but not limited to, clipping, shipping, shoeing, or training, requires that the animal be kept out of competition until the prohibited substance is no longer detectable in equine blood or urine samples. See Page 9 for the list *Estimated Drug Detection Times*.

The California Equine Medication Rule allows use of modern therapeutic pharmacologic treatments for illness or injury, unless the treatment 1) involves use of a prohibited substance and the animal is not withdrawn from competition or sale following treatment, 2) results in the presence of more than one non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID)

in the urine or plasma, or 3) results in the presence of the substance exceeding the maximum allowable level in blood or urine. The EMMP advises owners and trainers to contact the EMMP veterinarian to confirm if intended drug use for a particular purpose is therapeutic.

Herbal/Natural Products

Herbal and natural products have the potential to contain prohibited substances. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) approval is not necessary for manufacturers to produce commercial herbal products; therefore, herbal products are not scientifically tested or regulated as modern medications. When administering a product with an herbal or natural label to an equine, be aware that specific ingredients and quantitative analyses are not known for these products. Contrary to a manufacturer claim, detection of a prohibited substance (positive drug test) may occur after use of herbal products, such as valerian root, kava, chamomile, capsaicin, and devil's claw.

Consistency with United States Equestrian Federation (USEF) Regulations

The Equine Medication Monitoring Program began an effort in 2011 to attain consistency with the United States Equestrian Federation (USEF), the national governing body for equestrian sports. Both organizations strive for programs to protect the health and welfare of the equine athlete. The EMMP and the USEF Equine Drugs and Medications Program collaborated to align the drug rules of the two programs. Effective January 1, 2014, the California EMMP permissible drug list and maximum permissible drug levels (micrograms/milliliter) in plasma became consistent with levels set forth by USEF.

**Nine (9) Permissible Medications with Maximum Allowable Limit Restrictions
Dose and Time Recommendations**

Medication Generic Name	Medication Trade Name	Maximum Dose per Pound of Body Weight	Last Administration Before Competition	Administration Method*	Maximum Permissible Plasma Level
Dexamethasone	Azium®	(10.0 mg/1000 lbs)	> 12 hours	Oral, IV, IM	0.0005 mcg/ml
	Azium®	0.5 mg/100 lbs (5.0 mg/1000 lbs)	> 6 hours	IV**	0.0005 mcg/ml
Diclofenic	Surpass®	5 inch ribbon, 1/2 inch thick/ 1 site	> 12 hours	Topical, 2 doses/ 12 hrs apart	0.005 mcg/ml
Firocoxib	Equioxx®	0.1 mg/kg (45.5 mg/1000 lbs)	> 12 hours	Oral	0.240 mcg/ml
Flunixin meglumine	Banamine®	0.5mg/lb (500 mg/1000 lbs)	> 12 hours	Oral, IV	1.0 mcg/ml
Ketoprofen	Ketofen®	1.0 mg/lb (1.0 gm/1000 lbs)	> 12 hours	IV	0.250 mcg/ml
Phenylbutazone	Butazolidin®	2.0 mg/lb (2.0 gm/1000 lbs)	> 12 hours	Oral, IV	15.0 mcg/ml
	Butazolidin®	1.0 mg/ lbs (1.0 gm/1000 lbs)	AM & PM Feed	Oral, 2 doses /12 hrs apart	15.0 mcg/ml
Meclofenamic Acid	Arquel®	0.5 mg/lb (500mg/ 1000lbs)	> 12 hours	Oral, 2 doses/ 12 hrs apart	2.5 mcg/ml
Methocarbamol	Robaxin®	5.0 mg/lb (5.0 gm/1000 lbs)	> 12 hours	Oral	0.5 mcg/ml
Naproxen	Naprosyn®	4.0 mg/lb (4.0gm/ 1000 lbs)	> 12 hours	Oral	40.0 mcg/ml

*Single dose per 24 hours unless otherwise specified

**Administration must be by a licensed veterinarian and a Drug Declaration filed

Please Note:

1. Use of only one NSAID is permitted at a time. When two NSAIDS are part of a therapeutic regimen, one must be discontinued 72 hours before competition
2. Caution when using compounded medications with varying administration routes not specified above.
3. This chart is a quick reference and is not a replacement for the detailed Drugs and Medications Guidelines document.

Common Prohibited Substances under CDFA Code and Regulations

acepromazine	("Soma-tabs")	(Dramamine)
acetonide (Vetalog)	cannabinoids (synthetic	diphenhydramine
acetophenazine	& natural) and other	dipremorphine
acetylpromazine	cannabimimetics (CBD)	dipyrone (metamizole)
albuterol (Salbutamol)	capsaicin	doxapram
alfentanil	carbamazepine	doxepin
alprazolam	carfentanil	droperidol
aminophylline	carprofen (Rimadyl)	dyphylline
amitriptyline (Elavil)	cetirizine (Zyrtec)	ephedrine
amphetamines (class of	chloral hydrate	epinephrine (adrenaline)
drugs)	chloralbutanol	ethchlorvynol
antihistamines (class of	chlorpheniramine	ethyl alcohol
drugs)	chlorpromazine	etidocaine
apomorphine	(Thorazine)	etodolac
arsenic	chlorprothixene	etomidate
atropine	clenbuterol	etorphine
azaperone	(Ventipulmin)	fentanyl
barbiturates (class of	clomipramine HCL	fentiazac
drugs)	(Anafranil)	fluanisone
belladonna	clonazepam (Klonopin)	fluoxetine (Prozac)
benperidol	clonidine	fluphenazine (Prolixin)
benzocaine (Anbesol,	clozapine	GABA
Capacol)	cocaine	gabapentin (Neurontin)
benzodiazepines (class	codeine	glycopyrrolate
of drugs)	corticosteroids (class of	guaifenesin (Mucinex)
betamethasone	drugs)	guanabenz (Wytensin)
(Celestone)	cyclobenzaprine	haloperidol
bethanechol chloride	cyproheptadine	hydrocodone
boldenone	dantrolene (Dantrium)	hydromorphone
bromperidol	detomidine	hydroxyzine
bupivacaine (Marcaine)	(Dormosedan)	imipramine
buprenorphine	devil's claw	isoflupredone (Predef
(Bruprenex)	dexmedetomidine	2x)
buspirone	dextromethorphan	ketamine
butorphanol	dextromoramide	ketorolac
(Torbugesic)	dezocine	levallorphan
caffeine	diazepam (Vallum)	levorphanol
camphor carisoprodol	dimenhydrinate	lidocaine

lithium lorazepam
(Ativan)
lorazepam
LSD
mabuterol
mazindol
meclizine
medetomidine (Domitor)
meloxicam
meperidine
mepivacaine
(Carbocaine V)
meprylcaine
methadone
methamphetamine
methaqualone
methylphenidate
(Ritalin)
metomidate
milnperone
molindone
moperone
morphine
nalbuphine
nalmeferone
naloxone
nandrolone
nefopam
nikethamide
nitrazepam
opiates

orphenadrine citrate
oxymetazoline (Afrin)
oxymorphone
paroxetine
pentazocine
pentoxifylline
phencyclidine
phenibut
phenobarbital
phenylephrine
phenylpropanolamine
phenytoin
piperacetazine
pirenperone
pramoxine (Caladryl)
prazepam
prilocaine
procaine
procatamol
prochlorperazine
procyclidine
promazine
promethazine
propentofylline
propiomazine
propionylpromazine
propoxyphene
propranolol
pyrilamine (Tri-Hist
Granules)
ractopamine (Paylean)

reserpine (Serpasil)
risperidone
romifidine (Sedivet)
scopolamine
sertraline
spiperone
stanozolol (Winstrol-V)
sufentanil
synephrine
terbutaline sulfate
terfenadine
testosterone
tetracaine
THC
theobromine
theophylline
tolmetin
tramadol
trazodone
triamcinolone
trifluoperidol
trihexyphenidyl
tripelennamine
Valerian root
xylazine (Rompun,
AnaSed)
xylocaine
zilpaterol
zolpidem

12 Hour Injectable Rule

The California Equine Medication Rule prohibits the administration of any injectable substance to an equine within twelve (12) hours of competition, **except for a veterinarian administering the following:**

1. A minimum of 1 liter of polyionic fluids per 100 pounds of body weight administered within 6-12 hours of competition. (NOTE: Fluids supplemented with concentrated electrolytes, such as magnesium, are prohibited.)
2. Antibiotics (NOTE: Procaine Penicillin is prohibited).
3. Dexamethasone injection, not to exceed 0.5 milligrams per 100 pounds, exclusively for the treatment of acute urticaria (hives) within 6-12 hours of competition.

The veterinarian must file a Drug Declaration Form (CA Form 76-027 or USEF Form) within 1 hour of administration of these injectable substances.

Therapeutic Administration of Dexamethasone

The California Equine Medication Rule provides for the use of dexamethasone in equines only for therapeutic purposes, such as the treatment of an existing inflammatory condition related to illness or injury. Administration of products or preparations that contain dexamethasone as an active ingredient (i.e., Naquasone® bolus contains 5.0 milligrams of dexamethasone), should take into account the actual weight of the equine with the dosing guidelines on Page 4-5. See Page 12, *Estimated Detectable Timelines for Drugs*.

The rule establishes a maximum detectable permissible level for dexamethasone in blood and urine. The maximum permissible plasma concentration of dexamethasone is 0.0005 micrograms per milliliter; the maximum permissible urine concentration is 0.09 micrograms per milliliter. The dose of dexamethasone should be accurately calculated for the actual weight of the animal before administration. The maximum allowable daily dose of dexamethasone is 10.0 milligrams. No more than 1.0 milligrams/100 pounds of body weight of Dexamethasone injectable solution or oral powder should be administered to the equine in a 24-hour period. Dexamethasone should not be administered for more than five (5) consecutive days.

Guidance for Administration of Dexamethasone:

1. 12 Hour Injectable Administration: A dose of dexamethasone 1.0 mg (or less) per 100 pounds IV or IM is permitted 12 hours or MORE before competition.
2. 12 Hour Oral Administration: A dose of dexamethasone 1.0 mg (or less) per 100 pounds orally is permitted 12 hours or more before competition.

3. Emergency Use for Treatment of Hives (Urticaria): A dose of dexamethasone 0.5 mg (or less) per 100 pounds administered by a licensed veterinarian is permitted at 6 or more hours before competition for the treatment of hives (urticaria).

Note:

*Corticosteroids, including but not limited to, prednisolone (i.e., Solu-Delta-Cortef®) are prohibited substances. Prohibited substances used for the therapeutic treatment of illness or injury must be withdrawn 24 hours before competition. A written Drug Declaration Form must be filed for the administration of a prohibited substance administered within the three (3) days before competition and within the five (5) days before public sale. The rule does not permit the use of corticosteroids for non-therapeutic purposes, such as to affect mood or enhance performance. The animal receiving the corticosteroid for non-therapeutic purposes must be kept out of competition until the substance is no longer detectable in the animal's blood or urine sample.

Therapeutic Administration of Methocarbamol

The California Equine Medication Rule provides for the use of methocarbamol in equines only for legitimate therapeutic purposes. Before administration, the dose of methocarbamol should be accurately calculated for the actual weight of the animal. Methocarbamol administration should be no more than 5.0 mg per pound of body weight in twelve (12) hours. For a 1,000-pound animal, the maximum dose is 5 grams each 12 hours, which equals ten (10) 500 milligram tablets or 50 cc of methocarbamol injectable (100 milligrams per milliliter). No part of a methocarbamol dose should be administered during the 12 hours before competition. Feed medicated with methocarbamol must be consumed and/or removed from access 12 hours before competition. Methocarbamol should not be administered for more than five (5) consecutive days.

Therapeutic Use of Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs)

The California Equine Medication Rule permits the use of non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs for the therapeutic treatment of equine illness or injury. Permitted NSAIDs include: diclofenac acid, firocoxib, phenylbutazone, flunixin, ketoprofen, meclofenamic acid and naproxen. The California Equine Medication Rule allows use of only one (1) NSAID. Detection of more than one NSAID in a plasma or urine sample collected from an equine in show or competition is a violation. When two NSAIDs are part of a therapeutic regimen, one NSAID must be discontinued at least 72 hours before competition.

The dose for any NSAID should be accurately calculated for the actual weight of the animal before administration. No part of any NSAID dose should be administered during

the 12 hours before competition. Feed medicated with an NSAID must be consumed and/or removed from access at least 12 hours before competition.

Guidance for the Administration of NSAIDs:

1. **Diclofenic Acid (Surpass®):** The maximum dose of diclofenic acid cream is not more than 73 mg (1/2 inch wide 5 inch ribbon) every 12 hours to not more than one site. Application of diclofenic acid cream should not be in combination with any other topical preparations, including but not limited to, dimethyl sulfoxide (DMSO), nitrofurazone or liniments. Administration of diclofenic acid cream should not be for more than ten (10) consecutive days.
2. **Firocoxib (Equioxx®):** The maximum daily dose of firocoxib for a 1,000 pound equine is 45.5 mg, which equals four (4) marks on the medication dosing syringe supplied by the manufacturer. Firocoxib should not be administered for more than fourteen (14) consecutive days.
3. **Phenylbutazone (Butazolidin®):** The maximum daily dose of phenylbutazone is 2.0 grams for a 1,000 pound equine, which equals two (2) 1.0 gram tablets or two (2) 1.0 gram units of paste or 10.0 cc of 200 mg / ml injectable solution. Half of the maximum daily dose (1.0 gm/1000 lbs) can be administered orally every 12 hours during a five (5) day treatment program. Phenylbutazone should not be administered for more than five (5) consecutive days.
4. **Flunixin (Banamine®):** The maximum daily dose of flunixin is 500 milligrams for a 1,000 pound equine, which equals two (2) 250 milligram packets of granules **or** 500 milligrams of the oral paste **or** 10 cc of 50 mg/ml injectable solution. Flunixin should not be administered for more than five (5) consecutive days.
 - a. Emergency administration of flunixin (Banamine®) by a veterinarian is allowable for the treatment of colic or an ophthalmic emergency provided there is a 24 hour withdrawal of the equine from competition after administration. The veterinarian must file a Drug Declaration Form (CA Form 76-027 or USEF equivalent form) with an event manager within 1 hour of drug administration. A finding of flunixin (Banamine®) and any other NSAID in the same plasma or urine sample collected 24 hours or more after documented emergency treatment of an equine is not a violation.
5. **Ketoprofen (Ketofen®):** The maximum daily dose of ketoprofen is 1.0 gram for a 1,000 pound equine, which equals 10.0 cc of the 100 mg / ml of injectable solution. Ketoprofen should not be administered for more than five (5) consecutive days.
6. **Meclofenamic Acid (Arquel®):** The maximum daily dose of meclofenamic acid is 0.5 gram for a 1,000 pound equine, which equals one (1) 500 milligram packet of granules. Meclofenamic acid should not be administered for more than five (5) consecutive days.

7. **Naproxen (Naprosyn®):** The maximum daily dose of naproxen is 4.0 grams for a 1,000 pound equine, which equals eight (8) 500 milligram tablets. Naproxen should not be administered for more than five (5) consecutive days.

**Withdrawal of Equine from Event
after Administration of Therapeutic Medication**

An equine must be **withdrawn from competition** for a minimum of:

- 24 hours after therapeutic administration of a prohibited substance
- 45 days after the administration of reserpine and fluphenazine
- 90 days after the administration of an anabolic steroid.

An equine must be **withdrawn from a public sale** for a minimum of:

- 72 hours after therapeutic administration of a prohibited substance
- 72 hours after the administration of a therapeutic NSAID.

Estimated Detectable Timelines for Drugs

The California Medication Rule allows for the therapeutic administration of drugs and medications. The California Equine Medication Rule does not permit use of a permissible or prohibited substance for other than therapeutic treatment of illness or injury. If a prohibited substance is administered for any other purpose, including but not limited to, clipping, shipping, or training, the animal must be kept out of competition until the prohibited substance is no longer detectable in the animal's blood or urine sample. To assist in determining an appropriate withdrawal time of an equine from competition after drug administration see *Estimated Drug Detection Times* (Page 12). Reliance upon this guidance does not guarantee compliance with the rules since individual equine response to drugs may vary. Depending upon the drug administration scenario (i.e., the formulation of the drug, the dose or doses of drug administered, the frequency of administration, the route of administration, animal weight, and health status of the animal), it is possible that substances and their metabolites may remain detectable in the blood or urine of the animal for a number of days following the last administration. At the time of this printing, this EMMP guidance is consistent with USEF guidance. Please note, implementation of improved testing procedures occur as more sensitive tests develop; therefore, reliance on this guidance information is not acceptable as a defense to a violation of the rule in the event of positive drug test.

Exhibitors, owners, and trainers should consult the drug manufacturer, knowledgeable veterinarians, or the Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory for more specific advice on the administration of medications for non-therapeutic purposes.

Estimated Drug Detection Times

Anabolic Steroids

Bolderone	82 days
Nandrolone	35 days
Stanozolol	47 days
Testosterone	30 days

Long-acting Tranquilizers and Psychotropics

Fluphenazine and Reserpine	90 days
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Shorter-acting Tranquilizers and Sedatives

Acepromazine, Detomidine, Xylazine	7 days
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Procaine and Procaine Penicillin

14 days

Local Anesthetics (other than procaine)

Lidocaine, Mepivacaine	7 days
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Methylprednisolone

14 days

Corticosteroids (other than Methylprednisolone)

Triamcinolone and betamethasone	7 days
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Antihistamines

Cyproheptadine and Pyrilamine	7 days
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Albuterol

7 days

For additional guidelines on other drugs or medications, call (909) 219-1236, or email emmp@cdfa.ca.gov.

Drug Declarations Forms

A **Drug Declaration Form** (CDFA Form 76-027 or USEF equivalent form) is a legal document that an exhibitor or consignor must complete and file with an event manager for any equine at an event that has received a prohibited substance deemed by a licensed veterinarian as therapeutically necessary for the treatment of an illness or injury. An **owner/exhibitor/trainer** must complete and file a Drug Declaration Form for any equine that has received a **prohibited substance within the three (3) days before the day being shown**. A consignor must complete and file a Drug Declaration Form for any equine that has received a **prohibited substance or NSAID within the five (5) days before the day of the sale**.

The owner/exhibitor/trainer is to submit the completed Drug Declaration Form to the event manager within one (1) hour of administration of the product(s) at the event. If the product administration occurs at a time other than during equine event or sale hours, the owner/exhibitor/trainer is to submit the completed form within one (1) hour after an event

manager returns to duty. An event manager must sign and date the Drug Declaration Forms and submit them to the EMMP or USEF. Properly filed drug declarations, along with other relevant evidence, are given consideration when the chemical analysis of a sample obtained from an equine at an equine event or sale indicates the presence of a prohibited substance **or** more than one (1) NSAID **or** presence of a substance exceeding maximum allowable limits. EMMP will consider the information on the Drug Declaration Form and any other relevant evidence in determining if there is a rule violation.

Sample Collection

EMMP field personnel receive assignments to randomly select equines competing in or consigned to a registered event for sample collection. **Any equine on an event premises is subject to random selection for sampling and testing.** Selections will be made as the horse exits the competition arena. The California Equine Medication Rule **does not** require collection of both blood and urine samples. Trained EMMP field personnel will collect urine samples from selected equines when an EMMP-approved California licensed veterinarian is not assigned to the event. When an EMMP-approved California licensed veterinarian is assigned to work with EMMP field staff at an event, **only** blood samples will be collected from selected equines. The field representative will notify selected individual of the type of sample to be collected. No other sample type will be permitted.

When an equine is selected, the owner, trainer, or designee must maintain control of the selected animal and take it to a location designated by the EMMP representative for sample collection. The EMMP field representative is not responsible for following or locating the selected horse. Failure to submit a horse for sample collection or to cooperate with EMMP personnel is a violation and subjects the responsible person to civil penalties and possible suspension.

Once in the designated location, the individual must remove themselves from the immediate proximity of the animal and avoid any activities distractive to the animal. Any activity causing delay of sample collection, including but not limited to, schooling or training, lengthy cooling out period, or bandaging, shall be considered “non-cooperative.” Failure to cooperate with EMMP staff is a violation of the California law and subject to civil penalty of not less than \$100 and not more than \$10,000.

An EMMP priority is the safety of the public, the equine, and EMMP representatives. An EMMP representative may officially release a selected equine without sample collection if the animal poses a safety risk. If a reasonable attempt to collect a sample is made

without successful collection of a sufficient sample volume, EMMP field personnel will document the sample collection attempt and may officially release the selected equine.

Owners, trainers, or designees have the option to serve as a witness during the time of sample collection, labeling, and sealing. The witness may sign the record of sample collection acknowledging observation of the collection procedure. A decision to not observe sample collection or to not sign the sample collection document, constitutes a waiver of any objections to the identification of the equine selected and the manner of sample collection, labeling and sealing. Failure to witness the collection procedure is not an acceptable defense for challenging the identity of the equine or sample collection procedures.

Drug Detection Investigations and Violations

EMMP personnel seal collected samples, maintain chain of custody and submit the samples for chemical analysis to the Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory, Davis, CA. Laboratory reports detections of any substance in the sample. The chemical analysis of blood or urine is positive when a prohibited substance is found to be present in the sample or when a permissible substance is detected above the maximum allowable level. A positive chemical analysis shall be prima facie evidence that the substance was administered in some manner to the equine, whether intentionally or unintentionally, which caused it to be present in the sample at the time of competition or sale. According to the California Equine Medication Rule, the owner, trainer and consignor are responsible and accountable for the equine's condition at the time of sampling.

When the chemical analysis of a blood or urine specimen is positive for detection of a drug or medicine, an EMMP investigation begins. Under the rule, the EMMP staff may take into account relevant factors to determine an appropriate penalty, including but not limited to, the pharmacology of the prohibited substance, past violations of the responsible party, previous penalties in similar cases and reliance on the professional advice of a licensed veterinarian. A letter and Notice of Violation (NOV) and civil penalty assessment is sent to the owner/exhibitor/trainer or consignor of the equine with the positive sample. Relevant evidence or information about the detected substance may be submitted to the EMMP within a designated timeframe. Submitted information is given consideration by EMMP in determining if the violation should be rescinded.

Individuals may request an Informal Hearing to contest a Notice of Violation within thirty (30) days of issuance of the Notice of Violation (NOV). Informal Hearing requests must be submitted directly to the California Department of Food and Agriculture Legal

Department, Office of Hearings and Appeals located at 1220 N Street Suite 400, Sacramento, CA 95814. CDFA Legal Counsel assigns a Hearing Officer to the case and coordinates the hearing. The Hearing Officer provides the EMMP and the owner, trainer or consignor the opportunity to present their case. The Hearing Officer has fourteen (14) days to render a decision to release the case, to hold the violation in abeyance or to support the issuance of violation and civil penalty.

The type of drug detection and the background case investigation information are given consideration in the assessment of the civil penalty for violations.

- Civil penalties, of not less than \$100 and not more than \$10,000 for each offense, will apply to the owner, the trainer, or both the owner and trainer of an equine found to have a chemical analysis with a prohibited substance, more than one NSAID, or detection of a substance above the maximum permissible level in violation of the rule.
- The owner, trainer, or both owner and trainer may receive a suspension from all public shows and competitions for a period of not less than 90 days or more than one year for each violation.
- The owner of an equine found in violation of the rule may have to pay a penalty fee of \$50.00 to the public show or competition, where the animal was sampled.
- If an equine sample is found in violation of the rule, the event manager of the public show or competition where the animal was sampled, may require owner forfeiture of all prize money, sweepstakes, trophies, ribbons and points won, in accordance with event organization by-laws.
- The contract of sale on an equine may be declared void at the buyer's discretion, if a sample obtained from the animal at a registered public sale is found in violation of the California Equine Medication Rule.

Veterinarian Responsibilities

When dealing with illness or injury of an equine at a public event in California, the veterinarian should administer or prescribe whatever is indicated for therapeutic treatment. The veterinarian administering or prescribing a prohibited substance should provide the owner, trainer or exhibitor guidance for withdrawal of the animal from competition to comply with the California Equine Medication Rule. Compliance with the California Equine Medication Rule is the responsibility of the owner and the trainer, who are thereby subject to the appropriate fines and penalties for violations.

California Code of Regulations: Title 3 Division 2. Chapter 6. Sections 1280-1280.11

§ 1280. Definitions.

(a) The following definitions are supplemental to the definitions specified in Food and Agricultural Code section 24001 and are used specific to this chapter:

- (1) "Therapeutic drugs or medicines" means drugs or medicines prescribed for use by a licensed veterinarian for the treatment of a diagnosed illness or injury.
- (2) "Permissible drugs or medicines" means therapeutic drugs or medicines or drugs and medicines found in a sample within the established maximum detectable plasma or urine levels.
- (3) "Prohibited substance" means:
 - (A) Permissible drugs or medicines that exceed established maximum detectable plasma or urine levels;
 - (B) Therapeutic drugs or medicines used without a prescription for use by a licensed veterinarian for treatment of illness or injury; or
 - (C) Any stimulant, depressant, tranquilizer, anesthetic, including local anesthetic, sedative, analgesic, corticosteroid excluding dexamethasone, anabolic steroid, or masking agent administered within 24 hours before competition or 72 hours before public sale.
 - (D) Any anabolic steroid administered within 90 days before a competition or sale.
 - (E) Fluphenazine or reserpine administered within 45 days before a competition or sale.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code. Reference: Sections 24001 and 24011, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.1. Event Registration.

(a) The event manager is the "person in charge of an event", including the person responsible for registering the event with the Department and the person responsible for the assessment, collection, and remittance fees, and is personally liable for fees and penalties, if any, owed to the Department.

(b) Every public equine event or public horse sale shall be registered with the Department pursuant to sections 24001, 24012, and 24015 of the Food and Agricultural Code, at least 60 days in advance of the event on the Application to Register Equine Event/Assessment Report for Registered Event, Form 76-024A as provided by the Department, or on-line at <http://apps4.cdfa.ca.gov/emppublic/eventregistration.aspx>. To register events using Form 76-024A, sections (1) and (2) must be completed and the application form returned to the Department at least 60 days prior to the event start date. The Department, upon receipt of Form 76-024A, shall issue an event number, document the event number on the form, and return the form to the event manager to be used for the remittance of fees collected pursuant to section 1280.2 subsection (c) for public equine events. Form 76-024A shall include:

- (1) Event information including: name of event; event start date, event end date, and start time; number of equines expected; facility name and facility address (or

geographic location) including city, zip code, and county; event type (English, Western, etc.); and sponsor organization, if applicable.

(2) Event manager information including: last name and first name; mailing address including city, state, and zip code; primary telephone number; alternate telephone number or fax; e-mail address, and event alternate contact information including last name and first name, telephone number, and e-mail address.

(3) Payment information including: number of horses assessed; fees collected (number of horses entered in the registered event multiplied by the applicable fee in accordance with section 1280.2); pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code section 24012, a 10% penalty shall be applied when fees are not submitted within 15 days of the event end date and an additional 1.5% interest penalty shall be applied when fees are not submitted within 30 days; total amount due to the Department; and check number when fees are remitted by check.

(4) Signature of event manager and date signed (and date the event was cancelled, if applicable).

(c) Event managers are responsible for notifying the Department of event changes or cancellations.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code. Reference: Sections 24001, 24012 and 24015, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.2. Fees.

(a) The event manager is responsible for the assessment, collection, and remittance of fees, and is personally liable for fees and penalties, if any, owed to the Department.

(b) Beginning April 1, 2022, the applicable fee is \$14.00 per horse entered per event, except where a horse is entered in simultaneous multiple events held as single performances, the total applicable fee per horse shall be \$14.00.

(c) Event managers of public equine events must assess, collect, and remit fees to the Department within 15 days of the event end date using the Application to Register Equine Event/Assessment Report for Registered Event, Form 76-024A as provided by the Department, or on-line at <https://secure.cdfa.ca.gov/egov/emmp/>. To remit fees using Form 76-024A, sections (3) and (4) of the form as described in section 1280.1(b)(3) and (4) must be completed and the form with fees collected in the amount due, returned to the Department within 15 days after the final day of the event.

(d) Saleyard managers of public horse sales must assess and collect fees for all public horse sales held during a one-month period, and remit fees to the Department within 15 days of the end of the month being reported either on-line at <https://secure.cdfa.ca.gov/egov/emmp/> or by using the Saleyard Assessment Report, Form 76-025 as provided by the Department and the form shall include:

(1) Name of sale;

(2) Date of sale;

(3) Facility name and address (or geographic location) where the event will be held;

(4) Facility mailing address;

(5) Telephone number of saleyard;

(6) First and last name of saleyard manager;

(7) First and last name of an alternate contact;

(8) Payment information including: number of horses assessed; fees collected (number of horses consigned for public sale multiplied by the applicable fee in

accordance with section 1280.2); pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code section 24012, a 10% penalty shall be applied when fees are not submitted within 15 days of the end of the month reported and an additional 1.5% interest penalty shall be applied when fees are not submitted within 30 days of the end of the month reported; total amount due to the Department; and check number when fees are remitted by check.

(9) Signature of the saleyard manager and date signed.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407, 24012 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Section 24012, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.3. Declaration of Drugs Administered.

(a) Show or competition horses receiving a prohibited substance for therapeutic reasons are not be eligible for show or competition for a period of not less than 24 hours after receiving the prohibited substance.

(b) Sale horses receiving a permissible substance or prohibited substance for therapeutic reasons are not eligible for a public sale for a period of not less than 72 hours after receiving the permissible or prohibited substance.

(c) Any horse receiving anabolic steroids for therapeutic reasons shall be withdrawn from show, competition, or sale for 90 days after the administration of the anabolic steroid and for 45 days after the administration of fluphenazine or reserpine.

(d) Registered event exhibitors/owners/trainers must make a declaration of drugs administered pursuant to Food and Agricultural Code section 24011 and as specified in subsection (f) below for any horse that has received a prohibited substance for therapeutic reasons within three (3) days before a show/competition.

(e) Registered sale consignors must make a declaration of drugs administered in accordance with subsection (f) below for any horse that has received a permissible substance or a prohibited substance for therapeutic reasons within five (5) days before a sale.

(f) All declarations of drugs administered must be filed with the event manager on a completed Declaration of Drugs Administered, Form 76-027 as provided by the Department within one (1) hour of administering the product(s) if the administration occurs at the event or within one (1) hour after an event manager returns to duty if the administration occurs at a time other than during event hours. The Declaration of Drugs Administered form shall include:

- (1) Name and date of event;
- (2) Time and date of declaration;
- (3) Horse entry number;
- (4) Name, age, sex, color, and breed of horse;
- (5) Product name of drug or medication administered;
- (6) Amount, mode/route of administration (oral/injection/topical), and size/concentration/strength of drug or medication administered;
- (7) Diagnosis and reason for administering the medication;
- (8) Time and date of administration;
- (9) Name and signature of person administering the drug or medication;
- (10) Name, address, and telephone number of horse's owner; and
- (11) Name and signature of the event manager receiving the declaration, which acknowledges the form is complete, including the date and time received.

(g) Event managers of public equine events shall submit all Declaration of Drugs Administered, Form 76-027 received pursuant to this section to the Department within 15 days of the completion of the event, and for saleyard managers of public horse sales within 15 days of the end of the month reported.

(h) Information provided on the Declaration of Drugs Administered, Form 76-027 in conjunction with any other relevant evidence shall be considered by the Department in determining whether a violation has occurred.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407, 24011 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 24003, 24004 and 24006, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.4. Testing of Samples. [Repealed]

§ 1280.5. Prohibited Medications and Drugs. [Repealed]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407, 24003, 24008 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code. Reference: Sections 24000-24018, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.6. Medications. [Repealed]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407, 24003 and 24008, Food and Agricultural Code.

Reference: Sections 24000-24018, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.7. Random Testing.

(a) The Department will require random testing of horses exhibited or entered in any public horse show, horse competition, or public horse sale and shall designate the frequency and method of such testing by providing instructions to department personnel, approved California licensed veterinarians, and to laboratories performing analyses.

(b) An owner, trainer, both owner and trainer, or any person designated by the owner or trainer to maintain control of a horse randomly selected for examination by Department personnel shall:

(1) Take the selected horse without delay to a location determined by Department personnel for collection of the sample. Any activity causing delay of sample collection, including, but not limited to, schooling or training, lengthy cooling out period, or bandaging may be considered "non-cooperative."

(2) Remove equipment from the horse.

(3) Remove himself or herself from the immediate proximity of the horse.

(4) Avoid activities distractive to the horse.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code. Reference: Sections 24001, 24008 and 24009, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.8. Therapeutic Drugs and Medicines.

(a) Therapeutic drugs or medicines administered for purposes other than under veterinary prescription for a diagnosed illness or injury are considered prohibited substances, and their use is a violation of this section.

(b) Horses administered therapeutic drugs or medicines for purposes other than under veterinary prescription for a diagnosed illness or injury shall not compete or be available for sale until the prohibited substance is no longer detectable in the urine or blood sample.

(c) A therapeutic drug or medicine is permitted when:

- (1) A prohibited substance is administered more than 24 hours before competition or more than 72 hours before a public sale.
- (2) The therapeutic drug or medicine, or metabolite of the therapeutic drug or medicine, does not interfere with the quantification of any permitted substance or detection of any prohibited substances as defined by Food and Agricultural Code section 24001(h).
- (3) Only one (1) nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drug (NSAID) is given. When two NSAIDs are in a therapeutic regime, one must be discontinued at least 72 hours before competition.
 - (A) When administered by a licensed veterinarian for the emergency treatment of colic or an ophthalmic emergency, flunixin, in addition to one (1) other NSAID, may be acceptable if found in the plasma or urine sample of a horse provided:
 - (i) The licensed veterinarian who administered the substances properly signs and files a Declaration of Drugs Administered, Form 76-027 with the event manager or designee within one (1) hour after administration of the substances or one (1) hour after the event manager or designee returns to duty if the administration occurs at a time outside competition hours; and
 - (ii) The horse is withdrawn from competition for 24 hours or from public sale for 72 hours.
- (4) The detected level in the sample does not exceed the established maximum detectable plasma levels for the following drug or medicine:
 - (A) 15.0 micrograms per milliliter of phenylbutazone.
 - (B) 1.0 micrograms per milliliter of flunixin.
 - (C) 2.5 micrograms per milliliter of meclofenamic acid.
 - (D) 40 micrograms per milliliter of naproxen.
 - (E) 0.240 micrograms per milliliter of firocoxib.
 - (F) 0.005 micrograms per milliliter of diclofenac.
 - (G) 0.250 micrograms per milliliter of ketoprofen.
 - (H) 0.0005 micrograms per milliliter of dexamethasone.
 - (I) 0.5 micrograms per milliliter of methocarbamol.
- (5) The detected level in the sample does not exceed the established maximum detectable urine levels for the following drug or medicine:
 - (A) 0.09 micrograms per milliliter of dexamethasone.
 - (B) 350 micrograms per milliliter of methocarbamol.
- (d) No injectable substance shall be given to a horse within 12 hours of competition except:
 - (1) A minimum of 1 liter of polyionic fluids per 100 pounds of body weight given therapeutically by a licensed veterinarian between 6-12 hours of competition. Therapeutic fluids with concentrated electrolytes, such as magnesium, are prohibited.
 - (2) Antibiotics, except procaine penicillin G, administered by a licensed veterinarian between 6-12 hours of competition.
 - (3) Dexamethasone, not to exceed 0.5 milligram per 100 pounds, administered by a licensed veterinarian between 6-12 hours of competition exclusively for the treatment of acute urticaria (hives). The total dose of dexamethasone administered within 24 hours shall not exceed 1.0 mg per 100lbs.

(4) The licensed veterinarian who administered the injectable substances in (d)(1) through (3) above shall sign and file a Declaration of Drugs Administered, Form 76-027 with the event manager or designee within one (1) hour after the administration of the injectable substance or one (1) hour after the event manager or designee returns to duty if the administration occurs at a time outside competition hours.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407, 24011.6 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code.
Reference: Sections 24003, 24004, 24006, 24008, 24009 and 24011, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.9. Procedure upon Allegation of Violation. [Repealed]

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407, 24003 and 24008, Food and Agricultural Code.
Reference: Sections 24000-24018, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.10. Violations.

(a) Failure to comply with the provisions of this Chapter or Chapter 8 (commencing with section 24000) of Division 11 of the Food and Agricultural Code constitutes a violation punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) or more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000).

(b) The Department may act consistent with any other existing enforcement authority concurrently or at a later date unless otherwise prohibited. Existing remedies include, but are not limited to, the following:

- (1) Denial, suspension, or revocation of a registration or other indicia of authority issued by the Department;
- (2) Suspension of the owner, trainer and/or exhibitor from all competitions at any public horse show or competition for a period of not less than 90 days or more than one year for each violation; and
- (3) Suspension of the event manager from the management of any public horse show or competition for a period of not less than 90 days or more than one year for each violation.

(c) The Department may impose civil or administrative penalties, including, but not limited to, the following:

- (1) Referral to the appropriate Office of the Attorney General for criminal prosecution or other appropriate remedy; and
- (2) Reimbursement to the Department for any costs incurred due to any violation of this Chapter or Chapter 8 (commencing with section 24000) of Division 11 of the Food and Agricultural Code.

Note: Authority cited: Sections 407 and 24013, Food and Agricultural Code. Reference: Sections 24002, 24003, 24004, 24005, 24006, 24007, 24008, 24009, 24010, 24011, 24011.6, 24012 and 24015, Food and Agricultural Code.

§ 1280.11. Fines and Penalties.

(a) Failure to comply with the provisions of this Chapter or Chapter 8 (commencing with section 24000) of Division 11 of the Food and Agricultural Code, and any regulations adopted pursuant to them, constitutes a violation punishable by a fine of not less than one hundred dollars (\$100) or more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000). The Department shall use the provisions of this section to determine the violation class and amount of the penalty.

(b) For the purposes of this section, violation classes are designated as “serious,” “moderate,” and “minor” to establish maximum penalty amounts. Repeat violations may result in an escalation of violation class. Serious and moderate violations may be downgraded based upon the evidence, the factual circumstances, mitigating factors and the cooperation of the violator.

(1) “Serious.” Violations that cause significant performance enhancement of the equine or deceptive business practices that include the second offense, third offense, and any subsequent offenses for failure to submit a horse for sample collection; the first offense, second offense, and any subsequent offenses for detection of a non-therapeutic prohibited substance; the second offense and any subsequent offenses for detection of therapeutic prohibited substances; the third offense and any subsequent offenses for detection of two Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) in a sample; the third offense and any subsequent offenses for detection of a permissible substance over the maximum detectable plasma level; and the second offense, third offense, and any subsequent offenses for administration of a prohibited injectable substance within 12 hours of competition. Serious violations also include the third offense and any subsequent offenses for failure of an event manager to register an event at least 60 days in advance of the event and the third offense and any subsequent offenses for failure of an event manager to submit fees within 15 days after the final day of the event.

(A) The suspended individual is not permitted entry to the grounds of any registered event in the state of California during the suspension period. Event managers may not permit participation of a suspended individual in the registered event and event managers must immediately notify the Department of a suspended individual's presence on the event grounds. Event managers who permit participation of a suspended individual are subject to a violation and civil penalty in accordance with Food and Agricultural Code sections 24007 and 24015(c).

(2) “Moderate.” Violations in which there is a potential for intermediate level of competitive harm that include the first offense for failure to submit a horse for sample collection; the first offense for detection of a therapeutic prohibited substance; the second offense for detection of a permissible substance over the maximum detectable plasma level; the second offense for detection of two Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) in a sample; and the first offense for administration of a prohibited injectable substance within 12 hours of competition. Moderate violations also include the second offense for failure of an event manager to register an event at least 60 days in advance of the event and the second offense for failure of an event manager to submit fees within 15 days after the final day of the event.

(3) “Minor.” Violations that are unintentional and have minimal performance enhancing action in the competition, including the first offense for detection of a permissible substance over the maximum detectable plasma level and the first offense for detection of two Nonsteroidal Anti-inflammatory Drugs (NSAIDs) in a sample. Minor violations also include the first offense for failure of an event manager to register an event at least 60 days in advance of the event and the first offense for failure of an event manager to submit fees within 15 days after

the final day of the event. The Department may issue a notice of warning for minor violations.

(c) Table "A" Equine Medication Monitoring Program Violations Matrix is to be used to establish the level of severity of a particular violation and the corresponding penalty range for "serious," "moderate," and "minor" violation classes. (Email EMMP@cdfa.ca.gov or call 916-268-0609 to request Table "A" EMMP Violation Matrix)

For Drugs and Medications Information:

Equine Medication Monitoring Program

EMMP Veterinarian

1220 N Street

Sacramento, CA 95814

phone (909) 219-1236

fax 916-900-5333

emmp@cdfa.ca.gov

http://www.cdfa.ca.gov/ahfss/Animal_Health/emmp/