



VACCINATIONS FOR FOALS

****ALL VACCINATION PROGRAMS SHOULD BE DEVELOPED IN CONSULTATION WITH A LICENSED VETERINARIAN****

The two categories below reflect differences in the foal's susceptibility to disease and ability to mount an appropriate immune response to vaccination based on the presence (or absence) of maternal antibodies derived from colostrum. The phenomenon of maternal antibody interference is discussed in the text portion of these guidelines.

CORE VACCINATIONS protect against diseases that are endemic to a region, those with potential public health significance, required by law, virulent/highly infectious, and/or those posing a risk of severe disease. Core vaccines have clearly demonstrated efficacy and safety, and thus exhibit a high enough level of patient benefit and low enough level of risk to justify their use in all equids.

| | Foals and Weanlings (<12 months of age) <i>Of mares vaccinated in the prepartum period against the disease indicated</i> | Foals and Weanlings (<12 months of age) <i>Of unvaccinated mare</i> | |
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| DISEASE | | | COMMENTS |
| Tetanus | 3-dose series: 1 st dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2 nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after the 1 st dose 3 rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age | 3-dose series: 1 st dose at 1 - 4 months of age 2 nd dose 4 weeks after the 1 st dose 3 rd dose 4 weeks after 2 nd dose | |
| Eastern/Western Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) | 3-dose series: 1 st dose at 4 - 6 months of age* 2 nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1 st dose 3 rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age, prior to the onset of the next vector season. * <i>Foals in the Southeastern USA:</i> The primary vaccination series should be initiated with an additional dose at 3 months of age due to early seasonal vector presence. | 3-dose series: 1 st dose at 3 - 4 months of age* 2 nd dose 4 weeks after 1 st dose 3 rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age, prior to the onset of the next vector season. * <i>Foals in the Southeastern USA:</i> The primary vaccination series should be initiated at 3 months of age due to early seasonal vector presence. | <i>Note:</i> Primary vaccination series scheduling may be amended with vaccinations administered earlier to younger foals that are at increased disease risk due to the presence of vectors. A foal born during the vector season may warrant beginning vaccination at an earlier age than a foal born prior to the vector season. |

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| <p style="text-align: center;">Rabies</p> | <p>3-dose series: 1st dose at 6 months of age 2nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> | <p>3-dose series: 1st dose at 3 - 4 months of age 2nd dose 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> | |
| <p style="text-align: center;">West Nile Virus (WNV)</p> | <p><u>Inactivated vaccine*</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age, prior to the onset of the next vector season.</p> <p><u>Recombinant canary pox vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 5 - 6 months of age 2nd dose 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10-12 months of age, prior to the onset of the next vector season.</p> <p><u>Flavivirus chimera vaccine</u> 2-dose series: 1st dose at 5-6 months of age 2nd dose at 10-12 months of age, prior to the onset of the next vector season.</p> <p>*Foals in the Southeastern USA: Due to early seasonal vector presence, the primary vaccination series should be initiated earlier with the addition of a dose at 3 months of age.</p> | <p><u>Inactivated vaccine*</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 3 - 4 months of age 2nd dose 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age, prior to the onset of the next vector season.</p> <p><u>Recombinant canary pox vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 5 - 6 months of age 2nd dose 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age, prior to the onset of the next vector season.</p> <p><u>Flavivirus chimera vaccine</u> 2-dose series: 1st dose at 5 - 6 months of age 2nd dose at 10 - 12 months of age prior to the onset of the next vector season.</p> <p>*Foals in the Southeastern USA: Due to early seasonal vector presence, the primary vaccination series should be initiated at 3 months of age.</p> | <p><u>Note:</u> Primary vaccination series scheduling may be amended with vaccinations administered to younger foals that are at increased risk of exposure due to the presence of vectors.</p> <p>A foal born during the vector season may warrant initiation of the primary vaccination series at an earlier age than a foal born prior to the vector season.</p> <p>There is no data for the use of the recombinant or chimera product in foals < 5 months of age. If either product is administered to foals at < 5 months of age, the recommended primary schedule should still be completed.</p> |

RISK-BASED VACCINATIONS are those having applications which may vary between individuals, populations, and geographic regions. Risk assessment should be performed by, or in consultation with, a licensed veterinarian to identify which vaccines are appropriate for a given horse or population of horses. The listing of a vaccine here is not a recommendation for its inclusion into a vaccination program. Vaccine scheduling is provided for use after it has been determined which, if any, risk-based vaccines are indicated. Note: vaccines are listed in this table in alphabetical order not in order of priority for use.

| DISEASE | <p>Foals and Weanlings (<12 months of age)</p> <p><i>of mares vaccinated in the prepartum period against the disease indicated</i></p> | <p>Foals and Weanlings (<12 months of age)</p> <p><i>of unvaccinated mares</i></p> | COMMENTS |
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| Anthrax | Not applicable. As it is not recommended to vaccinate mares during pregnancy there will be no foals of mares vaccinated prepartum | <p>No age specific guidelines are available for this vaccine.</p> <p>Manufacturer's recommendation is for primary series of 2 doses administered subcutaneously at a 2 - 3 week interval.</p> | <p>Antimicrobial drugs must not be given concurrently with this vaccine.</p> <p>Caution should be used during storage, handling and administration of this live bacterial product. Consult a physician immediately should accidental human exposure (via mucus membranes, conjunctiva or broken skin) occur.</p> |
| Botulism | <p>3-dose series:</p> <p>1st dose 2 - 3 months of age</p> <p>2nd dose 4 weeks after 1st dose</p> <p>3rd dose 4 weeks after 2nd dose</p> | <p>3-dose series:</p> <p>1st dose 1 - 3 months of age</p> <p>2nd dose 4 weeks after 1st dose</p> <p>3rd dose 4 weeks after 2nd dose</p> | Maternal antibody does not interfere with vaccination; foals at high risk may be vaccinated as early as 2 weeks of age. |
| Equine Herpesvirus (EHV) | <p><i>Inactivated or modified live vaccine</i></p> <p>3-dose series:</p> <p>1st dose 4 - 6 months of age</p> <p>2nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1st dose</p> <p>3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> <p>Revaccinate at 6-month intervals.</p> | <p><i>Inactivated or modified live vaccine</i></p> <p>3-dose series:</p> <p>1st dose at 4 - 6 months of age</p> <p>2nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1st dose</p> <p>3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> <p>Revaccinate at 6-month intervals.</p> | |

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| <p>Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA)</p> | <p>Colt (male) foals: Single dose at 6 - 12 months of age (see comments).</p> | <p>Colt (male) foals: Single dose at 6 - 12 months of age (see comments).</p> | <p><u>Prior to initial vaccination, colt (male) foals should undergo serologic testing</u> and be confirmed negative for antibodies to EAV. Testing should be performed shortly prior to, or preferably at, the time of vaccination.</p> <p>As foals can carry colostral derived antibodies to EAV for up to 6 months, testing and vaccination should <u>not</u> be performed prior to 6 months of age.</p> |
| <p>Equine Influenza</p> | <p><u>Inactivated vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 6 months of age 2nd dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 2-dose series administered intranasally: 1st dose at 6 - 7 months of age 2nd dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p> <p>Revaccinate at 6-month intervals.</p> | <p><u>Inactivated vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 6 months of age 2nd dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 2-dose series administered intranasally: 1st dose at 6 - 7 months of age 2nd dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p> <p>Revaccinate at 6-month intervals.</p> | <p>An increased risk of disease may warrant vaccination of younger foals. Because some maternal anti-influenza antibody is likely to be present, a complete series of primary vaccinations should still be given after 6 months of age.</p> |
| <p>Potomac Horse Fever (PHF)</p> | <p>2-dose series: 1st dose at 5 months of age 2nd dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1st dose</p> | <p>2-dose series: 1st dose at 5 months of age 2nd dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1st dose</p> | <p>If risk warrants, vaccine may be administered to younger foals. Subsequent doses are to be administered at 4-week intervals until 6 months of age.</p> |
| <p>Rotavirus</p> | <p>Not recommended in foals</p> | <p>Not recommended in foals</p> | |

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| <p style="text-align: center;">Strangles <i>Streptococcus equi</i></p> | <p><u>Killed vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 2nd dose</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 3-dose series administered intranasally: 1st dose at 6 - 9 months of age 2nd dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p> | <p><u>Killed vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1st dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2nd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose 4 - 6 weeks after 2nd dose</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 3-dose series administered intranasally: 1st dose at 6 - 9 months of age 2nd dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1st dose 3rd dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p> | <p>Vaccination is not recommended as a strategy in outbreak mitigation.</p> <p>If risk warrants, the modified live vaccine (MLV) may be safely administered to foals as young as 6 weeks of age. However, vaccine efficacy in this age group has not been adequately studied. If MLV is administered to younger foals, a 3rd dose of vaccine should then be administered 2 – 4 weeks prior to weaning.</p> |
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Vaccinations for Foals developed by the American Association of Equine Practitioners Infectious Disease Committee, 2008.