

GUIDELINES FOR DISINFECTION

Personal hygiene

Why disinfect ourselves

To minimize the spread of diseases onto or between your properties may require a change in current daily routine.

Animals in the early stages of equine influenza may not exhibit any clinical signs of the disease, and the virus may unknowingly be spread around the country on clothing and shoes.

Assess your risk rating

Exposure	Risk rating
Equine influenza is not in New Zealand, and I am not dealing with imported or sick (coughing) horses.	Low Risk Carry out normal routine hygiene precautions. (Refer to Procedure 1, below)
Equine influenza is in New Zealand and I am dealing with imported or sick (coughing) horses.	Medium Risk You will need to review and step-up your procedures. (See Procedure 2, below)
Your property is infected with equine influenza	High Risk You need to follow very strict hygiene procedures and directions/instructions as given by MAF Biosecurity NZ. (Refer to Process 3, below)

Procedure 1 - for personal hygiene where a **LOW RISK** rating applies

Carry out normal routine hygiene precautions including:

- Wash boots, including soles, removing all visible dirt & contamination between properties
- Wash hands between properties
- Wear clean clothes (overalls) between properties
- Keep house environments clean, don't take contamination home. Wash hands and boots.

Procedure 2 - for personal hygiene where a **MEDIUM RISK** rating applies

Assess your daily routine:

1. How many properties/horses do you visit each day?
 - Need to prevent the possibility of spreading the disease from one property to another.
2. Will you be in contact with imported or sick horses today?
 - Minimise any contact with horses after your contact with imported or sick horses
 - Organize a shower and a change of clothes after contact with imported or sick horses.
3. What can I do to minimise spreading a disease between properties?
 - Are some properties/horses a higher risk than others?
 - Do some properties have more valuable horses than others?
 - Should I change the order of my visits?
 - Leave vehicle outside the property, or at least 10 metres away from all horses
 - Increase the hygiene procedures between properties
 - Where can I put in a disinfection step to limit the spread between properties?
 - Keep vehicles clean.

Modify your daily routine to assist with the above, by:

- Organising to carry a disinfectant kit. (See details below)
 - Start with low risk properties, end with high risk
 - Start with high value properties, end with low value
 - Everything taken onto a property should be cleaned prior to removal
 - Best practice is to leave vehicles at the gate and walk on or have someone already on the property to collect you from the gate
 - Don't take contamination back to the house
 - Shower and change into clean clothes after visiting medium and high risk properties.
4. What hygiene steps should I take before entering each property?
- Wash boots with disinfectant and water
 - Wear clean overalls or overalls dedicated to that one property
 - Consider whether your vehicle is required on the property.
5. What hygiene steps should I take before leaving each property?
- Wash hands with detergent and water
 - Wash boots with disinfectant and water
 - Clean all equipment and other items before removing from the property
 - Remove overalls
 - Clean vehicle if coming off the property.
6. What can I do to prevent the disease coming onto my property?
- Leave vehicles outside or keep vehicles at least 10 metres away from all horses
 - Only allow essential people to have access to your horses.
7. Start a diary or record of all people, horses and vehicles that enter or leave your property on a daily basis.
- This will be a vital source of information to assist in tracing where the disease may have come from, and/or go into the advent of an EI outbreak in New Zealand.

Are all horses on your property healthy?

- NO** Do not leave the property, and ring **0800 80 99 66**
Follow the instructions given by MAF Biosecurity NZ
- Yes** Continue with your scheduled hygiene procedures as in procedures 1 and 2, above.

Procedure 3 - If your property is INFECTED with equine influenza

Step-up your hygiene procedures and strictly follow the directions/instructions given by MAF Biosecurity NZ.

Hand washing

On medium and high risk properties:

- Blow your nose into a tissue and dispose into a rubbish bag. Your nose may be a source of contamination, so do this before washing hands
- Wash hands thoroughly with soap or detergent
- Clean every finger and under fingernails
- Wash right to the elbows
- Wash for at least 2 minutes
- Dry hands on clean paper towels.

Detergents

Liquid dishwashing liquid such as Morning Fresh or Palmolive is to be used for general washing.

Liquid hand soap should be used for washing hands.

Disinfectants

Suitable disinfectants include:

- Disinfectants containing Chlorhexidine: e.g. Savlon or Hibitane, or Dettol
- TriGene Advance; distributed by Ethical Agents, and available from most Veterinary Practices. The "clear" type has no smell, and is the most effective
- Alcohol wipes – for use on delicate veterinarian diagnostic equipment
- Methylated Spirits, diluted with water to 70% and used as a spray.

Disinfection Kit contents

- Multiple clean overalls (disposable if available)
- Scrubbing brush and nail brush
- 1 or 2 buckets
- Foot bath – 1 X 40L sturdy tub
- Water – minimum of 20 litres
- Spray pump – 5 Litre
- Plastic rubbish bags (multiple) for dirty overalls, used paper towels, tissues etc
- Rubbish bin
- Paper towels – 2 rolls
- Disinfectant – 2 litres (Dettol, Savlon, Hibitane or TriGene Advance)
- Liquid detergent - 2 litres (Morning Fresh, or Palmolive dishwashing liquid for general washing
- Liquid hand soap for washing hands.

If you suspect your horse has Equine Influenza call your veterinarian, or contact
MAF on 0800 80 99 66