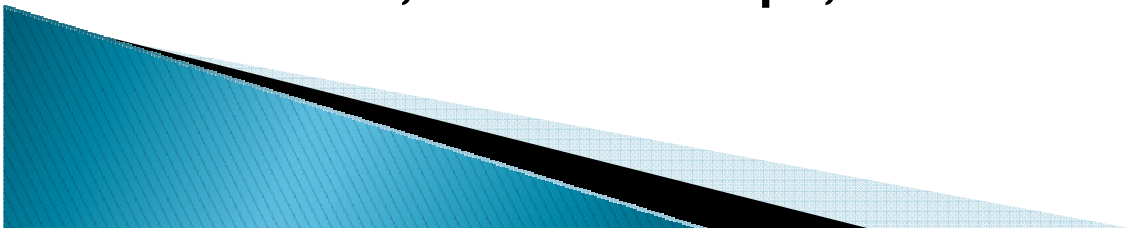


Equine Bio-security



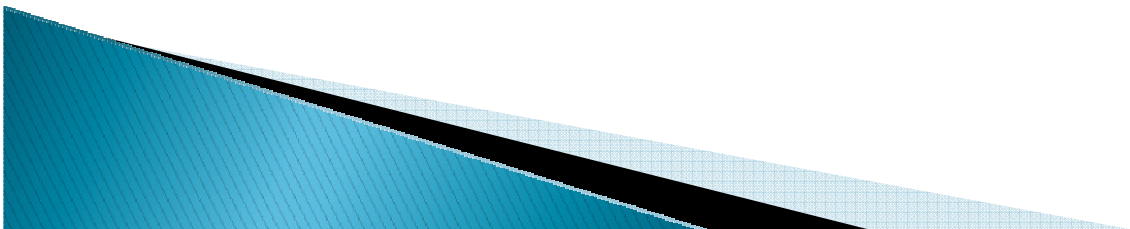
Jamie Wallace
BVMS, GPCertEqP, Cert EM(IntMed), MRCVS.



What is Biosecurity?



Management practices and procedures that can reduce the risk of infectious disease outbreaks.



Prevention is key

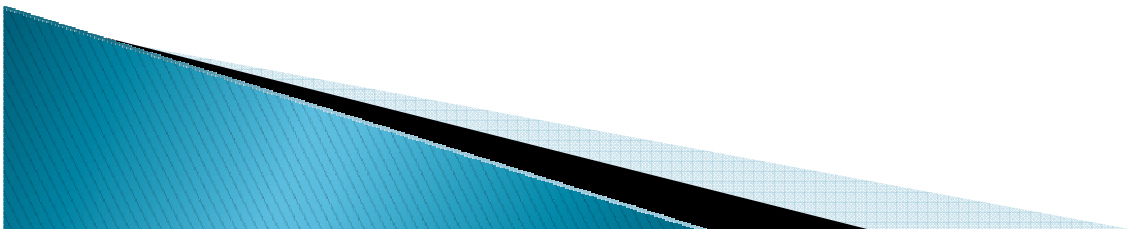


Protect animal health

Human illness (rare but needs to be considered: Salmonella, E. coli,)

Cost (cheaper to prevent diseases than treat).

Loss of use



Common causes of disease transmission

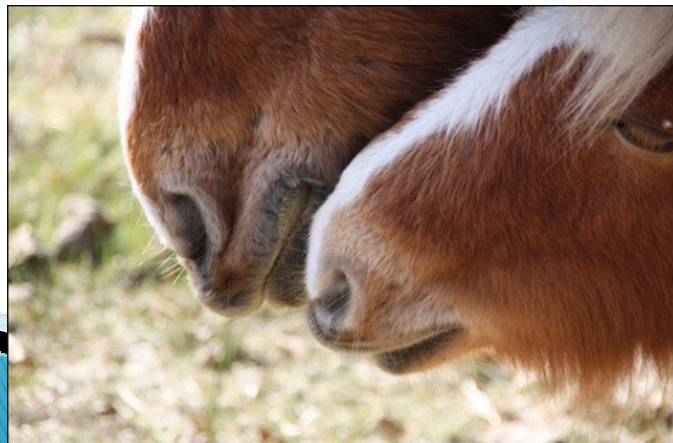


Horse to horse (direct / aerosolised)

Human traffic

Fomites (ie tack, water buckets, water sources, hay(lage), common grazing)

Wildlife and pests (rodents, birds and insects)
/ Pets



Risks at competitions

Other horses

Avoid nose to nose contact

Take your own buckets etc

Wash hands after handling other horses

Disinfect boots etc after each show

During transport

Hired stabling



Risk assessment



Single horse	Multiple horses	Multiple horses & owners	Large yard; Livery yard
No contact with other horses	Occasional contact with horses of known health status	Regular contact with horses of known health status	Frequent contact with horses of unknown health status
No new arrivals into yard	New arrivals unusual	New arrivals several times each year	Frequent new arrivals; high throughput of horses
No previous strangles	No previous strangles	Previous strangles; but investigations for carriers	Previous strangles; no investigations for carriers
Annual health plans/preventive health plans in place	Quarantine of new arrivals with testing	Quarantine of new arrivals but no testing	No quarantine or testing of new arrivals
Separate water troughs			Communal water troughs; shared feed utensils
No personnel traffic between horses, biosecurity in place	Little personnel traffic between horses, with biosecurity	Personnel traffic between horses, with biosecurity	Personnel traffic between horses, no biosecurity

Low risk (disease unlikely)

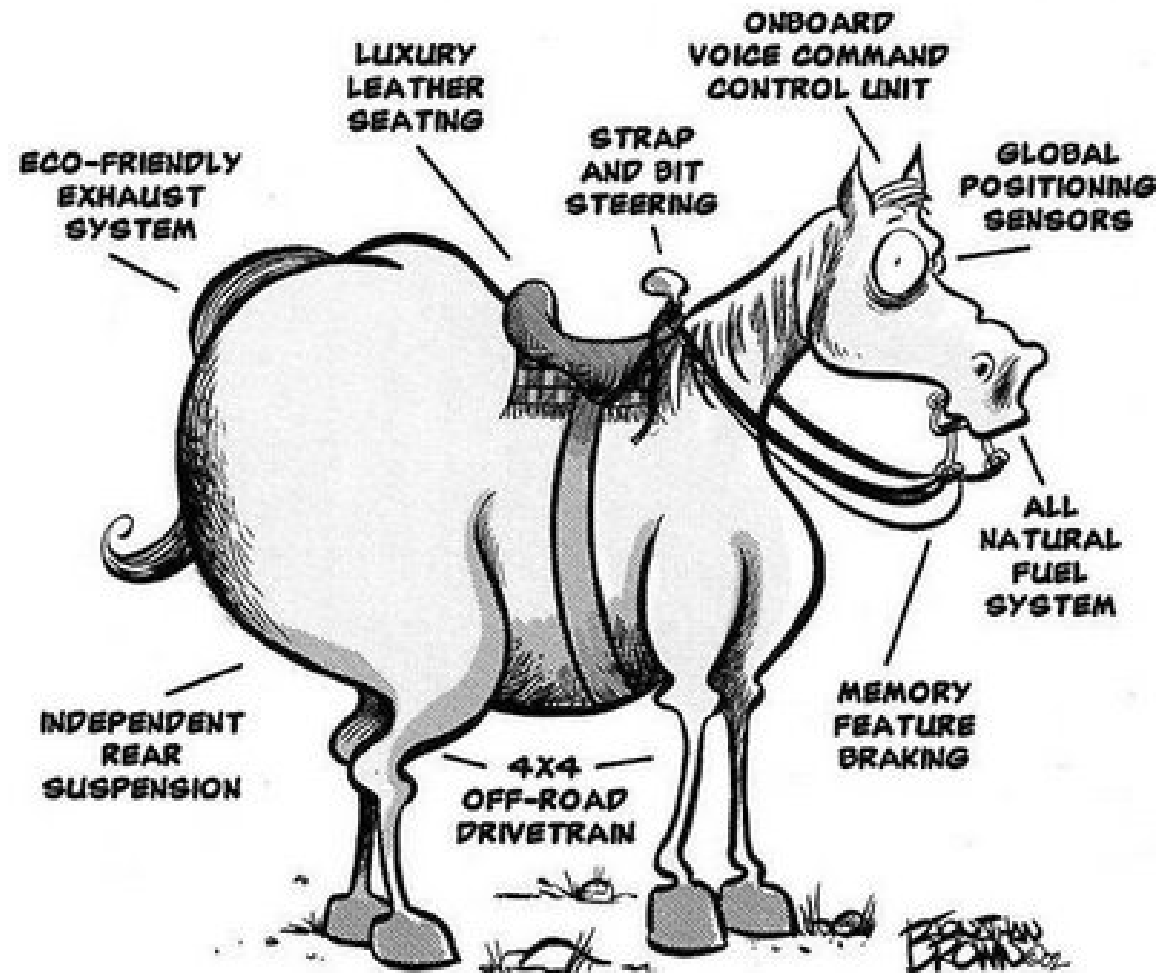
High risk (disease more likely)



Vaccination optional. May be appropriate for risk-averse owners

Consider 6 month vaccination intervals

3 month vaccination intervals



ORIGINAL S.U.V.

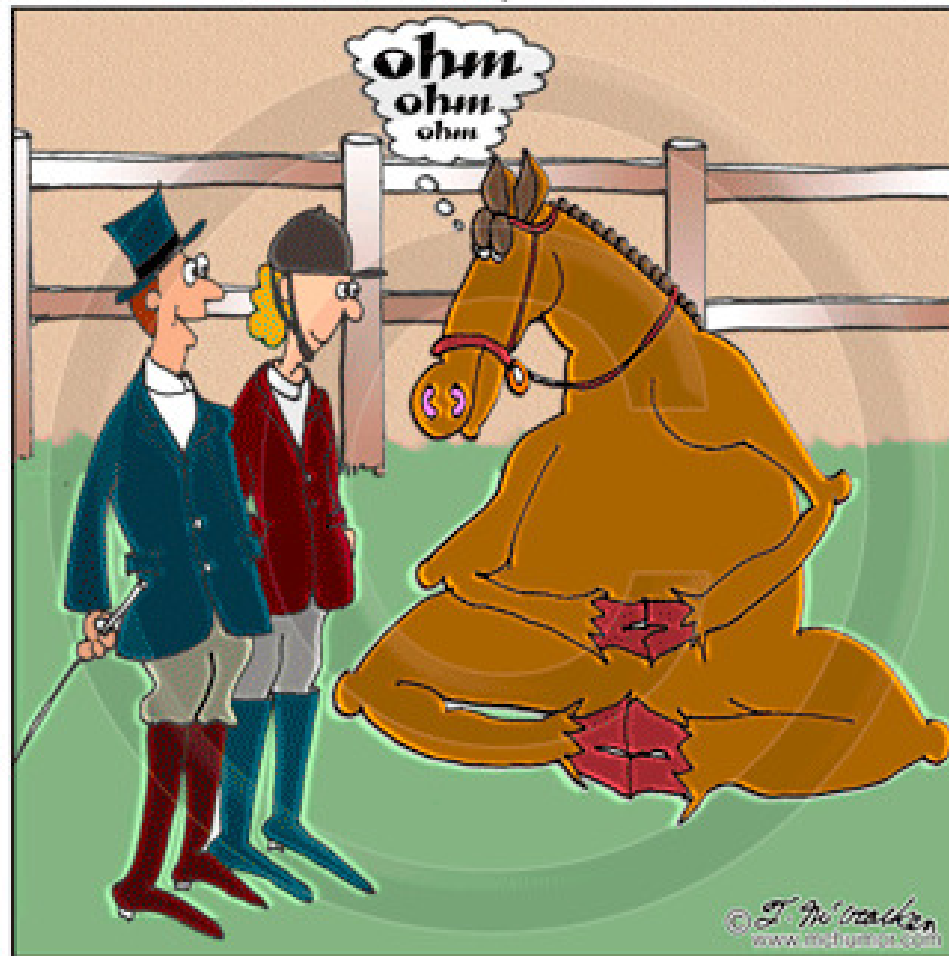
Daily bio-security



- Maintain horses in small groups of similar ages, minimize mixing
- Routine cleaning and disinfection of buckets/stables etc.
- Individual equipment e.g. Grooming kit
- Isolation of new horses on yard.



McHUMOR.com by T. McCracken



"Don't laugh. It's added
three points to his scores."

©T. McCracken mchumor.com

Isolation (Alcatraz standard!)

Physical separation (10–25m)

Separate water supply

Separate feed storage

Separate muck heap

Separate equipment

Separate handlers/handle last

Restricted access

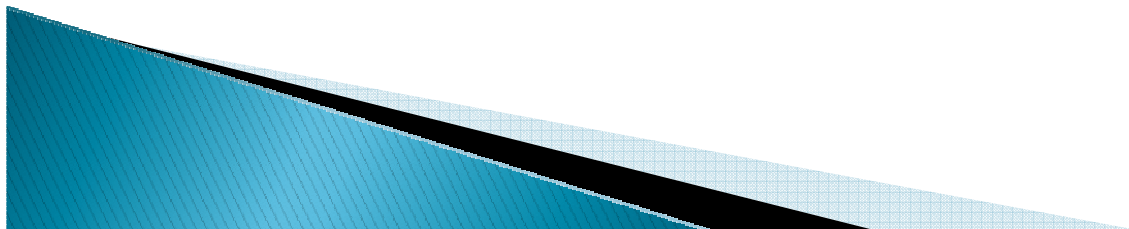
Dispose of waste carefully



Good standard.



- ▶ Stable block or shelter 40m away from other yards.
- ▶ Isolate for 16 days, take blood at day 14 for strangles antibodies and fwec.
- ▶ Separate water, tack, and dung heap.
- ▶ Leave until last for management.
- ▶ Ability to disinfect following occupation.



Identify infected animals early

Monitor for signs of illness daily

Act early

Have a plan for affected animals

Close the yard

Group into levels of exposure – clean, exposed and dirty

Notify neighboring premises – Don't be selfish, be honest

Yard records



Testing prior to introduction to herd



Strangles blood test: if positive guttural pouch washes during isolation period

Consider GI worms – Faecal worm egg counts

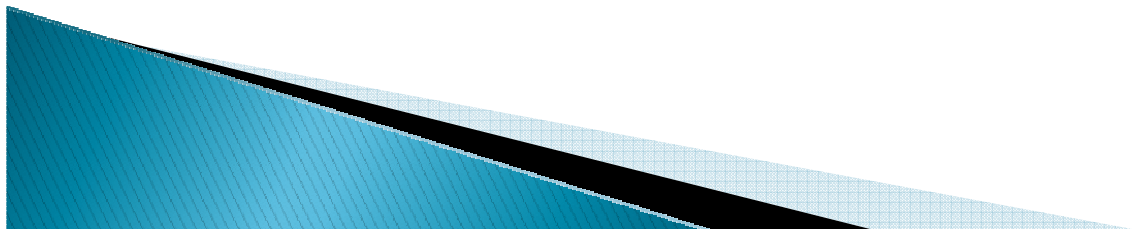
Any signs of illness should be investigated by your vet



How to manage an outbreak

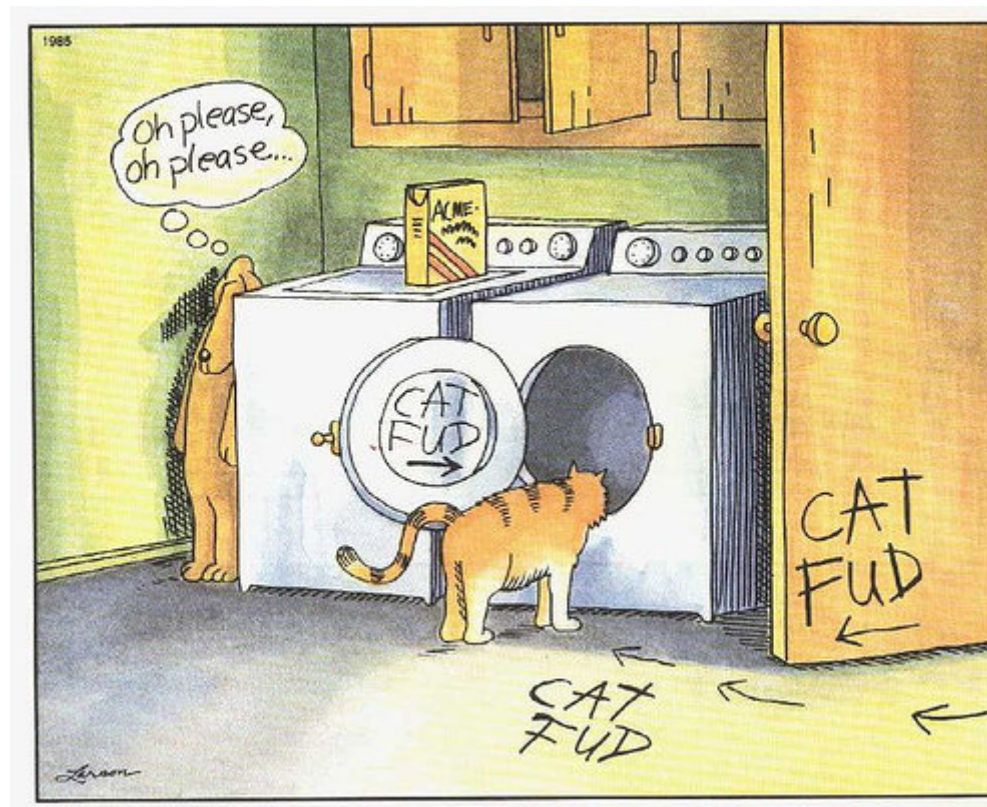


- ▶ Isolate infected horses
 - Use signs/notices so all are informed
- ▶ Stop all movement of horses and visitors on and off of yard
- ▶ Divide the yard into infected and non infected areas
- ▶ Use barrier nursing techniques
 - One person responsible for each infected horse
 - Wear gloves when dealing with infected horses
 - Don't take any equipment out of infected area
 - Use footbaths around the yard



Barrier handling





Disinfection after an outbreak



Remove all organic matter

Allow area to dry

Spray with suitable disinfectant and
allow to dry

Do not mix disinfectants

Remember to treat around drains and
taps

Defra website



Vaccination



- Vaccination for at risk diseases (Influenza, Strangles, ? Herpes)
- Isolation of new horses onto the yard.
- Testing of isolated horses (S Equi blood test, faecal egg worm count.)



"Mr. Osborne, may I be excused? My brain is full."

Equine Bio-security



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