



## 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>	
DISEASE			COMMENTS
<b>Tetanus</b>	3-dose series: 1 <sup>st</sup> dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after the 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose at 10 - 12 months of age	3-dose series: 1 <sup>st</sup> dose at 1 - 4 months of age 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 weeks after the 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose 4 weeks after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	
<b>Eastern/Western Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE)</b>	3-dose series: 1 <sup>st</sup> dose at 4 - 6 months of age* 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> 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 <sup>st</sup> dose at 3 - 4 months of age* 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose, 60 day interval after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose  * <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.

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Rabies</b></p>	<p>2-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 6 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</p>	<p>2-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 3 - 4 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</p>	
<p style="text-align: center;"><b>West Nile Virus (WNV)</b></p>	<p><u><i>Inactivated whole virus vaccine</i></u>  3-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 4 - 6 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose  <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> dose at 10 - 12 months of age,  prior to the onset of the next vector  season.</p> <p><u><i>Recombinant canary pox vaccine</i></u>  3-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 4 - 6 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose 4 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose  <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> dose at 10-12 months of age,  prior to the onset of the next vector  season.</p> <p><u><i>Inactivated flavivirus chimera vaccine</i></u>  3-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 4 - 6 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose  <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> dose at 10 - 12 months of age,  prior to the onset of the next vector  season.</p> <p><b><i>Foals in the Southeastern USA:</i></b>  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><i>Inactivated whole virus vaccine</i></u>  3-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 3 - 4 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose, 30 days after 1<sup>st</sup> dose  <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> dose, 60 day interval after 2<sup>nd</sup>  dose</p> <p><u><i>Recombinant canary pox vaccine</i></u>  3-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 3 - 4 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose, 30 days after 1<sup>st</sup> dose  <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> dose, 60 day interval after 2<sup>nd</sup>  dose</p> <p><u><i>Inactivated flavivirus chimera vaccine</i></u>  3-dose series:  <b>1<sup>st</sup></b> dose at 3 - 4 months of age  <b>2<sup>nd</sup></b> dose, 30 days after 1<sup>st</sup> dose  <b>3<sup>rd</sup></b> dose, 60 day interval after 2<sup>nd</sup>  dose</p> <p>(If primary series initiated during  mosquito vector season, an interval of  3-4 weeks between the 2<sup>nd</sup> and 3<sup>rd</sup>  doses is preferable to the above  described 8 week interval.)</p> <p><b><i>Foals in the Southeastern USA:</i></b>  Due to early seasonal vector  presence, the primary vaccination  series should be initiated at 3 months  of age.</p>	<p><u><i>Note:</i></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>Data indicates that maternal  antibodies do not interfere with the  originally licensed inactivated whole  virus vaccine product; however,  protection from clinical disease has  not been provocatively tested in foals  less than 6 months of age with any of  the currently licensed West Nile  Virus products.</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	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 mares</i>	COMMENTS
<b>Anthrax</b>	Not applicable. As it is not recommended to vaccinate mares during pregnancy there will be no foals of mares vaccinated prepartum	No age specific guidelines are available for this vaccine.  Manufacturer's recommendation is for primary series of 2 doses administered subcutaneously at a 2 - 3 week interval.	Antimicrobial drugs must <b>not</b> be given concurrently with this vaccine.  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.
<b>Botulism</b>	3-dose series: 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 2 - 3 months of age 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose 4 weeks after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	3-dose series: 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 1 - 3 months of age 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose 4 weeks after 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose	Maternal antibody does not interfere with vaccination; foals at high risk may be vaccinated as early as 2 weeks of age.
<b>Equine Herpesvirus (EHV)</b>	<u>Inactivated or modified live vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 4 - 6 months of age 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose at 10 - 12 months of age  Revaccinate at 6-month intervals.	<u>Inactivated or modified live vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1 <sup>st</sup> dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2 <sup>nd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1 <sup>st</sup> dose 3 <sup>rd</sup> dose at 10 - 12 months of age  Revaccinate at 6-month intervals.	

<p><b>Equine Viral Arteritis (EVA)</b></p>	<p><b>Colt (male) foals:</b> Single dose at 6 - 12 months of age (see comments).</p>	<p><b>Colt (male) foals:</b> Single dose at 6 - 12 months of age (see comments).</p>	<p><b><u>Prior to initial vaccination, colt (male) foals should undergo serologic testing</u></b> 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 <b>not</b> be performed prior to 6 months of age.</p>
<p><b>Equine Influenza</b></p>	<p><u>Inactivated vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose 3<sup>rd</sup> dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 2-dose series administered intranasally: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 - 7 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p> <p><u>Canary pox vector vaccine</u> 2 dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 5 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</p> <p>Revaccinate at 6-month intervals.</p>	<p><u>Inactivated vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose 3<sup>rd</sup> dose at 10 - 12 months of age</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 2-dose series administered intranasally: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 - 7 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p> <p><u>Canary pox vector vaccine</u> 2 dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 5 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</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><b>Potomac Horse Fever (PHF)</b></p>	<p>2-dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 5 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose</p>	<p>2-dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 5 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> 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><b>Rotavirus</b></p>	<p>Not recommended in foals</p>	<p>Not recommended in foals</p>	

<p style="text-align: center;"><b>Strangles</b> <i>Streptococcus equi</i></p>	<p><u>Killed vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose 3<sup>rd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 3-dose series administered intranasally: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 - 9 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose 3<sup>rd</sup> dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p>	<p><u>Killed vaccine</u> 3-dose series: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 4 - 6 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose 3<sup>rd</sup> dose 4 - 6 weeks after 2<sup>nd</sup> dose</p> <p><u>Modified live vaccine</u> 3-dose series administered intranasally: 1<sup>st</sup> dose at 6 - 9 months of age 2<sup>nd</sup> dose 3 - 4 weeks after 1<sup>st</sup> dose 3<sup>rd</sup> dose at 11 - 12 months of age</p>	<p>Vaccination is <b>not</b> 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> <p>The risk of vaccine-associated adverse events is increased when the MLV product is administered to young foals.</p>
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*Vaccinations for Foals developed by the American Association of Equine Practitioners Infectious Disease Committee, 2008 and updated by the AAEP Biological & Therapeutic Agents Committee, 2012.*