



## **Vaccination Protocol for Pregnant Mares**

Based on AAEP Guidelines

### **Core Vaccines:**

- **Tetanus Toxoid**- Annual (Spring) 4-6 weeks prior to foaling.  
Booster at time of injury or surgery if greater than six months since last vaccination.
- **West Nile**- Annual (Spring) 4-6 weeks prior to foaling.  
If using the PreveNile vaccine, give one dose prior to mosquito season. If using the killed virus vaccine (West Nile Innovator) give one dose prior to mosquito season and booster again in late summer or early fall.
- **Eastern and Western Equine Encephalomyelitis**- Annual (Spring) 4-6 weeks prior to foaling.  
Give every six months if the horse is in endemic area that has mosquitos year round.
- **Rabies**-Annual (Spring) 4-6 weeks prior to foaling.

### **Strongly Recommended In Addition to Core Vaccines:**

- **Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1/EHV-4)**- Annual  
The EHV-1 vaccine (Pneumabort) is given at 3, 5, 7, and 9 months gestation to lower the risk of abortion due to EHV.
- **Influenza**- Annual

### **Risk Based Vaccines:**

- **Strangles**- Annual. 4-6 weeks prior to foaling.  
Only recommended if the horse is at high risk for exposure or in endemic area. We recommend checking the blood titer levels for strep equi prior to vaccination to identify horses that are more likely to have a vaccine reaction.
- **Rotavirus**-  
Mares are given three doses at 8, 9, and 10 months gestation depending upon location. (Kentucky has a higher prevalence of rotavirus.)
- **Botulism**- Annual  
If not given previously then mares are given three doses at 8, 9, and 10 months gestation depending upon location. (Kentucky has a higher prevalence of botulism.)
- **Potomac Horse Fever**- Annual. 4-6 weeks prior to foaling.  
Recommended if the horse is at high risk due to location. Southern Ohio, Kentucky, and Michigan have a higher prevalence of Potomac Horse Fever.
- **Equine Viral Arteritis**- Annual. (2-4 weeks before breeding season)  
Blood test must be done prior to vaccination to confirm negative antibodies. The vaccine is only given before breeding.

**Maiden or open mares should be vaccinated for all recommended vaccines prior to breeding.**