



UNITED STATES ANIMAL HEALTH ASSOCIATION

2014 RESOLUTION

118TH ANNUAL MEETING

OCTOBER 16-22, 2014 ~ KANSAS CITY, MO

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 13 **APPROVED**

SOURCE: **COMMITTEE ON INFECTIOUS DISEASES OF HORSES**

SUBJECT MATTER: **Equine Veterinary Accreditation Modules**

BACKGROUND INFORMATION:

Recent equine disease events in the United States (US) highlighted the limited working knowledge of equine practitioners regarding equine regulatory diseases; specifically the scientific laboratory advances and changes in the understanding of disease epidemiology related to equine herpes virus myeloencephalopathy, equine infectious anemia, equine piroplasmiasis, equine viral arteritis, and contagious equine metritis. Knowledge of diagnostic technologies and appropriate testing is critical to the protection of the US equid population. Continued education and outreach to private practitioners on equine regulatory diseases is imperative.

The mission of the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS), National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) is to ensure the health of the nation's livestock and animal populations through educating private practitioners across the US. Accredited private practitioners are essential protectors of equine health. Recent changes in the USDA-APHIS-VS-NVAP require supplemental training for maintenance of accreditation. Private practitioners must complete USDA-APHIS-VS-NVAP approved supplemental training. Currently equine specific modules are limited to "International Movement of Horses and Slaughter Horse Transport." The addition of equine regulatory disease modules for private practitioners enables equine veterinarians to remain current and ensures continued protection of the US equid population.

RESOLUTION:

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) to develop National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) Equine Disease Modules to address the current science and epidemiology of equine regulatory diseases of interest, including but not limited to, equine herpes virus myeloencephalopathy, equine infectious anemia, equine piroplasmiasis, equine viral arteritis, and contagious equine metritis. Additionally, the USAHA encourages USDA-APHIS-VS-NVAP to collaborate with the USDA-APHIS equine specialists and state animal health officials in equine disease module development.

INTERIM RESPONSE

The United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association and appreciates the opportunity to respond.

APHIS agrees that adding a National Veterinary Accreditation Program (NVAP) equine diseases module would be useful for accredited veterinarians. APHIS will determine the resources and funding needed to produce this module, with the goal of commencing work in fiscal year 2016. Content for the module will be developed with input from APHIS and State animal health officials, as well as industry experts. Completion of NVAP educational modules typically takes from 12 to 18 months.