

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 13      APPROVED**

**SOURCE:                      COMMITTEE ON EQUINE**

**SUBJECT MATTER:          Tiered Import Referral Hospital**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

The continued recognition of adverse health events in imported equine creates a strain on the limited number of approved equine referral hospitals for imported horses. Industry recognizes the need for additional referral hospitals, however, the current standards for the referral hospitals limits the interest or availability of hospitals. Febrile horses which test negative for the imported horse diseases (equine infectious anemia, piroplasmiasis, dourine and glanders) should be considered lower risk than imported horses lacking test results. Less stringent standards should be applied to referral hospitals accepting horses which are negative for equine infectious anemia, piroplasmiasis, dourine and glanders.

**RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services to develop a tiered approval system for referral veterinary hospitals accepting horses for treatment from import quarantine facilities. Standards for each tier would be based on relevant risk. USAHA further requests that state animal health officials and industry stakeholders be involved in the discussion and development of such standards.