

**RESOLUTION NUMBER: 10 APPROVED**

**SOURCE: COMMITTEE ON EQUINE**

**SUBJECT MATTER: Equine Viral Arteritis Competitive Enzyme Linked  
Immunosorbent Assay Test Development**

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**BACKGROUND INFORMATION:**

Recent announcement of Veterinary Medical Research & Development (VMRD) ceasing production of the competitive enzyme linked immunosorbent assay (cELISA) for equine viral arteritis (EVA) is of great concern, as there is no other entity producing the cELISA test kit for EVA. The EVA cELISA is critical for the equine industry, especially in situations where a toxic serum sample results in an invalid complement fixation test. The importance of the cELISA was highlighted in 2019 in horses destined to compete in the Pan American Games. Twelve horses with toxic sera were deemed negative only by the EVA cELISA and allowed to be exported to compete. Without the EVA cELISA test, these animals would have been denied entry and not able to compete.

**RESOLUTION:**

The United States Animal Health Association urges the United States Department of Agriculture, Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service, Veterinary Services, National Veterinary Services Laboratory to develop an equine viral arteritis competitive enzyme linked immunosorbent assay test for equine viral arteritis.

**INTERIM RESPONSE:**

The United States Department of Agriculture (USDA), Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service (APHIS), Veterinary Services (VS) recognizes the concerns of the United States Animal Health Association (USAHA) and appreciates the opportunity to respond. The National Veterinary Services Laboratories (NVSL) previously evaluated the VMRD EVA cELISA prior to VMRD's announcement to discontinue production of the assay. NVSL has since identified another potential candidate assay. NVSL is performing initial verification testing of the IDvet ID Screen Equine Viral Arteritis Indirect ELISA. NVSL will continue additional work during FY2022 should the initial data look promising.