



Medication Control Program Sampling Procedure Handout

The Person Responsible (PR) for the horse may either be directed to the EA website or if preferred handed this information sheet prior to the commencement of swabbing.

1. The horse to be swabbed will be escorted to the swabbing area by the EA/FEI Swabbing Steward or EA Chief Steward after notification. Notification of the rider will be done in writing with the use of the EA/FEI MCP Notification Form. The horse must have any tack removed before presenting to the sampling area.
2. The horse will then be identified by the veterinarian and its identity confirmed against its Equestrian Australia or any other relevant registration and identity documentation. Where necessary the rider, owner or representative present may also be requested to produce a registration certificate.
3. The Equestrian Australia officials reserve the right to nominate a handler if they so desire. The athlete, owner or representative **MUST** be present throughout all swabbing procedures and will sign all records. It is in the athletes/owner/representatives interest to witness the entire procedure.
4. Blood and/or urine samples may be taken. If urine is to be taken, a sample will be taken by the attending surgeon or his assistant. The urine will be collected directly into a urine catching pan/container, which has been flushed firstly with running water, and then with a control wash solution provided by the laboratory. The wash through procedure is conducted in the presence of the rider, owner or representative. This wash through solution will also be flushed through the two (2) plastic specimen bottles prior to the addition of any urine sample.
5. The control wash through solution is retained in a third bottle and returned to the laboratory with the horse samples. The testing laboratory, at the same time that the urine samples are tested may test this as a control.
6. The attending veterinary surgeon will then draw six (6) only samples of blood from the jugular vein of the horse using sealed vacuum tubes with double-ended sterile needles.
7. Once the samples of urine and/or blood have been collected, they will be capped and sealed in the presence of the athlete, owner and/or representative.
8. These labels will be placed on each of the urine, blood and control containers so as to make removal of the cap without destruction of the seal impossible. Both the urine and blood samples will also be sealed in the provided secure tri - bags.
9. The samples will remain visible to the athlete, owner or representative at all times until finally secured. All collected samples will be returned to the sample kit bag and resealed with and outgoing seal.
10. The horse details, the serial numbers of the collected and sealed samples, will all be recorded by the Swab Steward on the EA Post Sampling Report. The Swab Steward retains the top slip of the Sample identity cards, whilst the athlete/owner/representative retains the second carbon copy slip.
11. Sample identity cards provided by the testing laboratory will be used to identify samples. On these forms, 'trainer' will be taken to mean 'owner, athlete or representative' and 'club' will be taken to mean the Equestrian Australia.
12. The samples will remain under the absolute protection of the attending veterinarian or nominated Swab Steward from the time it is sealed until it is delivered by the attending veterinarian or nominated Swab Steward to the analysing laboratory.
13. The procedure for the notification of sample testing results and any subsequent actions to be taken by either the EA or the athlete/owner/representative is defined in the EA Disciplinary By Laws. In the case of samples that are tested not to be free of prohibited substances ie a positive test, then the PR will be advised in a manner that is determined by the relevant EA disciplinary by-laws and procedural guidelines. This will be the responsibility of the EA Chairman of the National Judicial Procedures Committee (CNJPC) and the National CEO.
14. Should the athlete, owner or representative refuse or any person and/or third party wilfully obstruct and/or interfere in anyway in the taking of a swab from a horse or pony that has been selected to be sampled when requested to do so, they shall be deemed to be in breach of the EA/FEI Rules and Procedures and they shall be dealt with accordingly and disciplinary action may result.
15. Any matter in respect of swabbing and/or medication control not specifically dealt with above shall be determined by the relevant current EA/FEI Rules and Regulations that may apply.
16. The EA reserves the right to modify the above Procedures where necessary in it's absolute discretion