**PROPER VACCINE CARE AND HANDLING**

**STORAGE**
Always maintain the appropriate temperature for vaccines. Most vaccines are stored at 2 to 7°C (35 to 45°F). Failure to do so may result in vaccine ineffectiveness and may increase rate of local reactions to vaccinations.

**VACCINE CONTAMINATION**
A phenol red indicator is added into our WEST NILE-INNOVATOR® and FLUVAC INNOVATOR® vaccines. Vaccines typically have a finished pH target of 7.1 to 7.4 and display as a pink indicator. Bacterial contaminants can shift the indicator to amber or yellow (acidic) or brown (basic).

**PROPER CARE**
- Keep a working thermometer in the refrigerator.
- Monitor and record the refrigerator temperature twice a day.
- Store vaccines in the middle of the refrigerator. Do NOT store in the door or against the back of the refrigerator.
- Stock and rotate vaccine supply from the back so the shortest expiration date is in the front.

**VACCINE ADMINISTRATION**
Warm the vaccine in your hand to body temperature before injection. When using tank vials, always draw up individual doses just before administration. Vaccines also should be gently agitated immediately before use to ensure a uniform suspension of the vaccine.

**INJECTION SITES**
Administer vaccines in the vaccine triangle of the neck or hind legs in the semitendinosus or semimembranosus muscles. Turn horses out to an exercise yard after vaccination to minimize post-vaccination irritation and muscle stiffness.

**REMINISERS FOR CONCERNED CLIENTS**
After vaccination, don’t forget to remind clients of the common responses they may observe in their horses. Vaccines are designed to stimulate a response from the horse’s immune system. Each horse is unique and your horse may respond differently to vaccinations than another. It’s fairly common for your horse to experience mild, temporary side effects such as local muscle soreness or swelling, fatigue, fever, loss of appetite and lack of energy or alertness.

If clients are concerned about over-vaccination, break up injections by administering different vaccines on different days. This will limit the number of antigens the horse will receive per visit, potentially reducing the intensity of the expected side effects.

**MANAGING EXPECTATIONS**
Each horse is unique and your horse may respond differently to vaccinations than other horses. It’s fairly common for your horse to experience mild, temporary side effects such as local muscle soreness or swelling, fatigue, fever, loss of appetite and lack of energy or alertness.

If your horse’s mild side effects last longer than 48 hours or increase in severity, give us a call.

**PEACE OF MIND**
Zoetis supports the efficacy of our vaccines through the Equine Immunization Support Guarantee. Any horse properly vaccinated by a veterinarian who contracts symptoms suggestive of a potential lack of efficacy against one of the following diseases will be supported for reasonable diagnostic and treatment costs up to $5,000:
- West Nile
- Equine influenza
- Tetanus
- Eastern equine encephalomyelitis
- Western equine encephalomyelitis
- Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis

Contact Veterinary Medical Information and Support (VMIPS) at 1-800-366-5288