

# AMERICAN QUARTER HORSE ASSOCIATION

## THERAPEUTIC MEDICATION FACT SHEET

- AQHA allows the use of some medications under a very stringent set of conditions as defined by the addendum to rule VIO400 of AQHA's *Official Handbook of Rules and Regulations*. Please refer to said *Handbook* for a complete copy of the addendum. It is also available on our website at [www.aqha.com](http://www.aqha.com).
- No drug listed in Class I or II of ARCI's *Uniform Classification for Foreign Substances*, Revised Edition, February 2012, is ever allowed under any circumstance. These drugs are primarily hard narcotics and have no therapeutic use in the horse.
- Administration of substances commonly used, such as vitamins, minerals, electrolytes, wormers, hormones, etc., do not require a medication report to be filed as long as they contain no forbidden substance.
- Other drugs and medications used for therapeutic purposes may be given under a very stringent set of conditions. As a part of those conditions, a medication report must be filed, and the horse withdrawn or kept out of competition for a minimum of 24 hours. The administration of a conditionally permitted therapeutic medication for the purpose of transport, grooming, training, etc., is not therapeutic under this authorization rule.
- Phenylbutazone, Flunixin, Ketoprofen, Meclofenamic Acid, Naproxen, Dexamethasone, Firocoxib (Equioxx) and Eltenac (PENDING FDA APPROVAL-See AQHA's *Handbook*) may be given without withholding the horse from competition for 24 hours, so long as the level of the drug does not exceed the maximum allowable plasma level as stated in the addendum.
- Other drugs which are allowed to be administered on show day are Lasix, Acetazolamide and Isoxsuprine. Lidocaine or Mepivacaine are allowed if administered under the direct observation of show management and/or the official show veterinarian for the purpose of surgical repair of a minor skin laceration, which, by their very nature, would not prevent the horse from competing following the surgery.
- Section VIO403.1 of the addendum requires medications to be administered or prescribed by a veterinarian licensed to practice veterinary medicine in the state, province or country where the event is being held. The veterinarian or person administering the medication must sign the medication form; or if by prescription, a copy (with written instructions for use) must be attached to the medication report.
- The 13 medications listed under section VIO405 of the addendum do not require diagnosis of illness or injury or filing of a medication report form, except for the use of Lidocaine and Mepivacaine, when a report form must be filed and administration witnessed by show management.
- Medication report forms may be obtained from show management or by calling the AQHA office at (806) 376-4811.
- Completed medication forms must be filed with show management, who will forward them to AQHA with their show results.
- The presence of any drug or medication, including those allowed by this addendum, shall constitute a positive test if a properly completed medication report form is not filed. [Remember, a form is not required for Phenylbutazone, Flunixin, Ketoprofen, Meclofenamic Acid, Naproxen, Dexamethasone, Firocoxib (Equioxx), Eltenac (PENDING FDA APPROVAL), Acetazolamide, Furosemide, Lasix and Isoxsuprine].
- Questions concerning particular drugs, dosages, clearance times, etc., should be directed to the United States Equestrian Federation at (800) 633-2472 or (859) 258-2472.

[www.aqha.com](http://www.aqha.com)

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