



STATE OF OKLAHOMA
OKLAHOMA HORSE RACING COMMISSION

February 1, 2012

Racetrack Managers
Horsemen's Organizations

Racing Secretaries
Practicing Veterinarians

Re: Update to Directive on Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds

Dear Industry Stakeholders:

Enclosed is the Commission's Directive on Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds, updated to reflect changes approved by the Commission at its January 26, 2012 meeting. Those changes include:

- Clarifying the 19 drugs therapeutic medications by placing them in three categories [non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs, corticosteroid drugs, and other drugs] on Pages 1-2
- Addressing the issue of "stacking" drugs by adding two conditions for the use of the 19 listed therapeutic medications and Phenylbutazone on Page 2
- Identifying Phenylbutazone as a non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drug on Page 3

These changes took effect immediately on January 26, 2012.

Please distribute the Directive widely within your organization and let us know if you have any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Constantin A. Rieger".

Constantin A. Rieger
Executive Director

CAR:bjm
Enclosure

xc: Commissioners
Neal Leader, Senior Assistant Attorney General and Commission Counsel
Mary Ann Roberts, OHRC Staff Attorney
Mike Dixon, OHRC Director of Law Enforcement
Petra Hartmann, Director, Industrial Laboratories
Commission Staff

OKLAHOMA HORSE RACING COMMISSION

DIRECTIVE ON
COMMISSION-SANCTIONED THRESHOLDS
[3A:205.2(H)]

THERAPEUTIC MEDICATIONS

(1) A finding by the Primary Laboratory of a prohibited drug, chemical or other substance in a test specimen of a horse is prima facie evidence that the prohibited drug, chemical or other substance was administered to the horse and, in the case of a post-race test, was present in the horse's body while it was participating in a race. Prohibited substances include:

- (a) Drugs or medications for which no acceptable threshold concentration has been established;
- (b) Therapeutic medications in excess of Commission-Sanctioned Threshold concentrations as set forth below;
- (c) Environmental contaminants and substances of human use present in the horse in excess of Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds as set forth below;
- (d) Any medication, drug, substance, or metabolic derivative thereof that might mask or screen the presence of prohibited drugs, or prevent or delay testing procedures.

(2) The use of the following therapeutic medications shall be permitted not less than twenty-four (24) hours before post time for the race in which the horse is entered, provided the concentration in the horse's plasma/serum sample or specimen does not exceed the following levels when tested post race:

- (a) Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drugs
 - 1. Diclofenac: 5 ng/ml plasma/serum.
 - 2. Flunixin: 100 ng/ml plasma/serum effective 6/2/08
 - 3. Ketoprofen: 100 ng/ml plasma/serum.
 - 4. Naproxen: 750 ng/ml plasma/serum.
- (b) Corticosteroid Drugs
 - 5. Dexamethasone: 1.5 ng/ml plasma/serum.
 - 6. Methylprednisolone: 2 ng/ml plasma/serum.
 - 7. Triamcinolone Acetonide: 1 ng/ml plasma/serum.

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Approved 3/23/06, 5/18/06, 1/25/07, 2/21/08, 6/19/08, 5/21/09, 6/18/09, 3/25/10, 6/16/11,
8/11/11, 1/26/12

(c) Other Drugs

8. Acepromazine: negative/LOD*.
9. Albuterol: 1 ng/ml plasma/serum.
10. Clenbuterol: 0.5 ng/ml plasma/serum.
11. Dantrolene: 100 ng/ml plasma/serum.
12. Detomidine: negative/LOD*
13. DMSO: 1 ug/ml plasma/serum.
14. Dipyrone: 1 ug/ml plasma/serum.
15. Mepivacaine: negative/LOD*.
16. Methocarbamol: 1 ug/ml plasma/serum.
17. Pyrilamine: 50 ng/ml serum/plasma.
18. Procaine Penicillin: 25 ng/ml serum/plasma.
19. Salicylic Acid: 6.5 ug/ml serum/plasma.

The use of these therapeutic medications and Phenylbutazone is subject to the following additional conditions:

1. the presence of more than two permitted non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs in the post-race serum is prohibited; and
2. the presence of more than two permitted corticosteroids in the post-race serum is prohibited.

(3) Environmental Contaminants

Although the following environmental contaminants and/or substances may be found in the horse, no sample or specimen shall exceed the following levels when tested post race:

- (a) Caffeine: 100 ng/ml serum.
- (b) Cocaine: 150 ng/ml urine (Benzoyl Ecgonine Metabolite).
- (c) Morphine: 100 ng/ml urine.
- (d) Lidocaine: 25 ng/ml urine.
- (e) Strychnine: 100 ng/ml urine.
- (f) Atropine: 70 ng/ml urine.

*Plasma/Serum Level - Negative/LOD: Less than the limit of detection of the method.

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(4) Anabolic Steroids [approved by Commission, 6/18/09]

The presence of anabolic steroids in a race horse is strictly prohibited except for the presence of the following approved anabolic steroids at plasma/serum levels below Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds:

- (a) Stanozolol: 85 pg/ml
- (b) Boldenone [Equipoise]: 215 pg/ml
- (c) Nandrolone: 65 pg/ml
- (d) Testosterone: 100 pg/ml

These levels are based upon a 60 day withdrawal and became effective on 8/18/09, the 61st day after approval by the Commission on 6/18/09.

(5) Salix [Furosemide] and Bute [Phenylbutazone], a Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Drug

The following two rules in OHRC *Rules of Racing* reflect the acceptable level of Furosemide [Salix] and Phenylbutazone [Bute], respectively:

Rule 325:45-1-9, Furosemide (Salix) Use Without Detention Barn

- (2) The Commission has established a post race plasma concentration level not to exceed 100 ng/ml of Furosemide (Salix).

Rule 325:45-1-22, Phenylbutazone Use

- (2) The permitted quantitative test level of Phenylbutazone shall not exceed 5 micrograms (ug) per milliliter (ml) of plasma.

(6) Other acceptable therapeutic medications.

In light of the fact that scientific research is an evolving process in recognizing therapeutic medications at non-performance enhancing levels, the Commission acknowledges that the laboratory may detect levels for therapeutic medications not previously identified in this Directive. In the event of detection of a medication that is subsequently established as routine and safe to use in the industry, it should be considered as a mitigating factor in any disciplinary action taken against the affected Trainer.

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(7) Owner's and Trainer's Assumption of the Risk.

In an effort to allow horses that have been treated with specified therapeutic medications to race, the Commission has replaced its no tolerance standard for those medications with Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds.

As specified above, under this Directive, a specified therapeutic medication may be used if two (2) conditions are met:

1. The medication must be administered at least 24 hours prior to post time of the race in which the horse is entered, and
2. The post-race concentration level of the medication in the horse's plasma/serum cannot exceed the Commission-Sanctioned Threshold for the medication.

While the Commission established thresholds are based on scientific studies, there is no guarantee that administration of an allowed therapeutic medication twenty-four (24) hours prior to post time will result in a concentration level of the medication that complies with Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds, as the condition of the horse, the horse's metabolism, the route of drug administration, the dosage of the drug administered, and other factors may affect the post-race levels of the medication in the horse's plasma or serum. **Accordingly, owners and trainers who use a permitted therapeutic medication assume the risk that, even if the drug is administered twenty-four (24) hours prior to post time, the concentration level of the medication in the horse's plasma or serum may, nevertheless, exceed the Commission-Sanctioned Threshold for the medication.**

Owners and trainers should also understand that the use of Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds, rather than the use of a no tolerance standard, is the only margin of error allowed. There is no margin of error allowed above the Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds.

Approved by Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission, 3/23/06; 5/18/06, 1/25/07, 2/21/08, 6/19/08, 5/21/09, 6/18/09, 3/25/10, 6/16/11, 8/11/11, 1/26/12

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