Detection time for Acepromazine from research findings in The Pharmacokinetics of Equine Medications (RIRDC Pub. No.11/117)

IMPORTANT INFORMATION AND DISCLAIMER

This information is for the guidance of equine veterinarians to assist in determining an appropriate withholding time from competition.

If you are not an equine veterinarian, you must not rely on any information contained in this publication. You should seek the advice of an equine veterinarian before administering a therapeutic drug to a horse and before making decisions about withholding time in your particular circumstances.

This publication summarises the results of a study in which a single dose of a particular formulation of the drug was administered using a particular method to a limited number of horses of a particular weight. Formulation differences exist between drugs of different companies and may also affect the pharmacokinetics of the drug. Therefore this summary is not, and should not be regarded as, advice regarding the period of detection in urine in any particular case. The actual period will depend on the particular circumstances of each instance of drug administration.

While reasonable care has been taken in preparing this publication to ensure that the information is true and correct, the Commonwealth of Australia, the Rural Industries Research and Development Corporation (RIRDC), the authors (ETRA) and contributors give no assurance as to its accuracy or completeness. They expressly disclaim, to the maximum extent permitted by law, all responsibility and liability to any person, arising directly or indirectly from any act or omission, or for any consequences of any such act of omission, made in reliance on the contents of this publication, whether or not caused by any negligence on their part.

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Preparation administered
ACP 10 injection (Delvet Pty Ltd)
Active ingredients: acepromazine maleate 13.5 mg/mL (equivalent to 10 mg/mL acepromazine)

Other proprietary names
Acemav Injection; Acepril 10

Classification
Phenothiazine tranquilizer (S4)

Route of administration
Intravenous (single administration)

Dose
3 mL/horse (equivalent to 0.045 to 0.063 mg/kg)

Number of horses studied
12 (median body weight 551 kg, range 474 to 670 kg)

Results from sample of race horses
Period of detection in urine (including metabolites, isomers and/or artifacts):
3 DAYS, based on a screening limit in urine of 10 ng/mL of the 2-(1-hydroxyethyl)promazine sulfoxide metabolite.

Notes
- For competition horses, forensic tests may be performed using plasma or urine to measure the parent drug, metabolites, isomers and/or artifacts;
- The excretion rate of acepromazine was found to show marked variation between horses;
- Different formulations of this compound from different manufacturers may be excreted differently;
- The detection time specified here is provided for the guidance of veterinarians to estimate an appropriate withholding time, based on the particular circumstances of drug administration and the addition of a suitable safety margin.
Equine Therapeutics Research Australia (ETRA)

RIRDC has collaborated with several key industry bodies to sponsor a research consortium – Equine Therapeutics Research Australia (ETRA) – to provide more accurate information about the pharmacokinetics of equine medications. Four Universities, four Australian horseracing forensic laboratories and Equine Veterinarians Australia together identified the 18 most important drugs. After administration to a number of horses, the concentration of these drugs was measured in blood plasma and urine.

The information in this sheet is based on this research and is provided for the guidance of equine veterinarians.

Acknowledgement

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References

