

**Recommendations
Glanders Conference (Dubai)
April 23-25,2012**

مؤتمر دبي لداء الرعام
في الخيول
إبريل 23-25, 2012

CONSIDERING THAT:

1. There is an upsurge of glanders outbreaks in recent years in the Middle East Region while the real situation of the disease is not known in many countries in other regions at risk in the world;
2. Glanders poses a risk to Public Health;
3. Transparency in animal disease situation is essential in ensuring early warning and rapid response to outbreaks;
4. Large numbers of equines are moved both between and within OIE Member countries for ever increasing number of equine sporting events and for breeding purposes with an associated risk of disease spread between countries and regions;
5. There is a need to ensure that horse movements within or between OIE Member countries do not pose a risk to animal health or public health;
6. Certification based on effective surveillance and testing complying with OIE Standards for, OIE listed, equine diseases is a key management tool to support safe horse movements;
7. Surveillance, diagnostic testing and vaccination in Member Countries should be in line with methods described in the OIE Manual of Diagnostic Tests and Vaccines for Terrestrial Animals and any other OIE guidelines with the support of the OIE Reference Laboratories ;
8. Effective Veterinary Services are essential to support and guarantee animal health an reliable certification within and between OIE Member countries;

THE OIE REGIONAL CONFERENCE ON GLANDERS RECOMMENDS:

1. The OIE

1. The OIE Regional Representation of the Middle East in collaboration with the Member Countries of the Region, to include an eradication program for Glanders as a priority into its Action Plan for 2012-2016;
2. To develop a roadmap for Glanders eradication and a specific committee to be entrusted with this.
3. To deploy, upon the request and financial support of OIE Member countries in the region, Expert Missions to support countries in diagnosis and control of glanders and provide follow up after these missions.
4. To mobilise international expertise from OIE network of Reference Centres;
5. To provide necessary tools including standards in support of establishment of equine disease free zones (EDFZ);
6. To elaborate further the new concept of equine sub-populations provided that:
i) the list of registered horses is reliable; ii) specific biosecurity measures, certified by Veterinary Services, are in place and iii) limited to specific events, certified by Veterinary Services;
7. To review and update relevant OIE Standards on equine diseases in the Code and Manual and promote their use in the Member Countries;
8. To continue to advocate the importance of surveillance and in particular early detection and rapid response in order to mitigate the risk of glanders for public and animal health;
9. To continue to provide most up-to-date information on the epidemiology of the disease to Member Countries;
10. Widely publicise information/education material available and scientific publications;

2. OIE Member countries

1. That all countries in the Region adhere to and respect their obligations for reporting of the animal health situation, including equine diseases using WAHIS System;
2. That the region where the disease is suspected to be present, Member countries shall ensure that glanders is a notifiable disease in their legislation and include it in their national surveillance programmes using passive surveillance and, if possible, active surveillance with the support of the concerned stakeholders.
3. That Member countries are encouraged to comply with the relevant OIE standards and where appropriate self-declare country/zonal freedom from relevant OIE listed equine diseases, including glanders.

4. That Member countries cooperate with equine industry to improve surveillance of OIE listed equine diseases, including glanders.
5. To encourage participation in the OIE PVS Pathway if they have not yet undergone PVS evaluations and the engagement in the following steps.
6. To encourage the use of the FEI passport, which is in line with the OIE Model passport (Chapter 5.12 of the OIE Terrestrial Code) as well as in compliance with other OIE standards regarding Veterinary Certification.
7. To encourage collaboration between public and private veterinarians and laboratories on disease reporting of OIE listed equine diseases, including glanders, in line with OIE standards.
8. To increase awareness and knowledge of the disease to the public and stakeholders within countries.
9. Member Countries to seek closer collaboration with the scientific community and specialised institutions.

3. FEI and other partners

1. To include glanders into their education and awareness program, particularly in the Middle East
2. To engage in public-private partnerships e.g in support of developing more sensitive, specific and affordable diagnostic tests for equine diseases including glanders and the research for the development of vaccines for glanders.