

Kelly G. Cathey
Executive Director



Mary Fallin
Governor

**State of Oklahoma
Oklahoma Horse Racing Commission**

May 24, 2017

Racetrack Managers
Racing Secretaries
Official Veterinarians

Horsemen's Organizations
Practicing Veterinarians
Boards of Stewards

Re: Update to Directive on Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds

Dear Industry Stakeholders:

Enclosed is the Commission's updated Directive on Commission-Sanctioned Thresholds, as recommended by the Ad Hoc Committee on Rules and Medication, to reflect approval at the May 18, 2017 Commission meeting. The updates take effect on August 15, 2017.

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

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "K. Cathey", written over a white background.

Kelly G. Cathey
Executive Director

KGC:bjm

Enclosure

xc: Commissioners
Sandra Balzer, Esq., Assistant Attorney General and Commission Counsel
Bennett Abbott, Esq., Deputy General Counsel, Department of Agriculture,
Food and Forestry
James Rucker, Esq., Assistant General Counsel, Department of Agriculture,
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Pete Markstone, OHRC Director of Law Enforcement
Petra Hartmann, Director, Industrial Laboratories

Approved by 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, 3/20/12, 1/24/13, 1/16/14, 1/15/15, 2/19/15, 5/21/15, 10/15/15, 2/18/16, 5/18/17 [with 8/15/17 effective date]

OKLAHOMA HORSE RACING COMMISSION

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

(1) A finding by the Primary Laboratory of a prohibited substance or chemical in a test specimen of a horse is prima facie evidence that the prohibited substance or chemical 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) Medications or substances for which no acceptable threshold concentration has been established by the Commission;
- (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, substance, or metabolic derivative thereof that might mask or screen the presence of prohibited medications or substances, or prevent or delay testing procedures.

(2) Except for Furosemide (Salix), no substance or medication shall be administered to any horse within 24 hours of a race in which a horse is entered. The use of the following therapeutic medications shall be permitted, provided the concentration in the horse's plasma/serum sample or specimen does not exceed the following level when tested post-race:

(a) Non-Steroidal Anti-Inflammatory Medications

- 1. Diclofenac: 5 ng/ml plasma/serum.
- 2. Firocoxib: 20 ng/ml plasma/serum.
- 3. Flunixin: 20 ng/ml plasma/serum.
- 4. Ketoprofen: 2 ng/ml plasma/serum.
- 5. Naproxen: 750 ng/ml plasma/serum.

(b) Corticosteroid Medications

- 6. Dexamethasone: 5 pg/ml plasma/serum.
- 7. Methylprednisolone: 100 pg/ml plasma/serum.
- 8. Triamcinolone Acetonide: 100 pg/ml plasma/serum.

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(c) Other Medications

9. Acepromazine: 100 pg/ml plasma/serum.
10. Albuterol: 1 ng/ml plasma/serum for Thoroughbreds only.*
11. Betamethasone: 10 pg/ml plasma/serum.
12. Butorphanol: 2 ng/ml of free butorphanol plasma/serum.
13. Cetirizine: 6 ng/ml plasma/serum.
14. Cimetidine: 400 ng/ml plasma/serum.
15. Clenbuterol: 0.025 ng/ml [25 pg/ml] plasma/serum for Thoroughbreds only.*
16. Dantrolene: 100 pg/ml of 5-hydroxydantrolene plasma/serum.
17. Detomidine: 1 ng/ml plasma/serum.
18. Dimethyl Sulfoxide (DMSO): 10 ug/ml plasma/serum.
19. Dipyrone: 20 ng/ml plasma/serum.
20. Glycopyrrolate: 3 pg/ml plasma/serum.
21. Guaifenesin: 12 ng/ml plasma/serum.
22. Isoflupredone: 100 pg/ml plasma/serum.
23. Lidocaine: 25 pg/ml of total 30H-lidocaine plasma/serum.
24. Mepivacaine: 50 pg/ml plasma/serum.
25. Methocarbamol: 1 ng/ml plasma/serum.
26. Omeprazole: omeprazole sulfide- 10 ng/ml plasma/ serum.
27. Prednisolone: 1ng/ml plasma/serum.
28. Procaine Penicillin: 25 ng/ml plasma/serum.
29. Pyrilamine: 50 ng/ml plasma/serum.
30. Ranitidine: 40 ng/ml plasma/serum.
31. Xylazine: 200 pg/ml plasma/serum.

*Albuterol and Clenbuterol are prohibited substances in Quarter Horses, Paints and Appaloosas.

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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 medications in the post-race plasma/serum is prohibited; and
2. The presence of more than two permitted corticosteroids in the post-race plasma/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) Arsenic: 0.3 ug/ml total arsenic urine.
- (b) Atropine: 70 ng/ml urine.
- (c) Caffeine: 100 ng/ml serum/plasma.
- (d) Cocaine: 150 ng/ml urine (Benzoyl Ecgonine Metabolite).
- (e) Estradiol: 0.045 ug/ml, free+conjugated 5 α -estrane-3 β , 17 α -diol, in the urine of male horses other than geldings.
- (f) Gamma Aminobutyric Acid (GABA): 110 ng/ml plasma/serum.
- (g) Hydrocortisone: 1 ug/ml urine.
- (h) Methamphetamine: 100 ng/ml urine.
- (i) Methoxytyramine: 4 ug/ml, free+conjugated urine.
- (j) Morphine: 100 ng/ml urine.
- (k) Salicylate, Salicylic Acid: 750 ug/ml urine or 6.5 ug/ml serum/plasma.
- (l) Strychnine: 100 ng/ml urine.
- (m) Theobromine: 2 ug/ml urine or 0.3 ug/ml plasma/serum.

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(4) Cobalt

50 ng/ml in plasma/serum effective June 4, 2015.

(5) Anabolic Steroids

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) Boldenone [Equipoise]: a confirmatory threshold not greater than 25 pg/ml for all horses, regardless of sex.
- (b) Nandrolone: a confirmatory threshold not greater than 25 pg/ml for fillies, mares, and geldings; males horses other than geldings shall be tested for Nandrolone in urine.
- (c) Stanozolol: a confirmatory threshold not greater than 25 pg/ml for all horses, regardless of sex.
- (d) Testosterone: a confirmatory threshold not greater than 25 pg/ml for fillies, mares, and geldings.

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

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/serum 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/serum.

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(7) 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.

(8) 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 medication administration, the dosage of the medication 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 medication 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.**

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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.

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