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MARCH 26, 2014

TO: CALIFORNIA HORSEMEN AND VETERINARIANS

FROM: Rick M. Arthur, DVM, Equine Medical Director

SUBJECT: MEDICATION ADVISORIES CONCERNING REGUMATE AND FLUNIXIN

**WITHDRAWAL TIME GUIDANCE FROM RMTC CONCERNING FLUNIXIN
(BANAMINE)**

The RMTC has released updated withdrawal time guidance for flunixin based on recent research conducted at the Kenneth L. Maddy Equine Analytical Chemistry Laboratory at UC Davis.
(http://www.rmtcnet.com/content_landing_withdrawal.asp).

A 1.1 mg/kg IV dose of flunixin as flunixin meglumine was administered to 16 horses and blood samples were collected at various times after administration. Plasma flunixin concentrations were determined by a validated liquid chromatography mass spectromic method. The plasma flunixin concentrations were above 20 ng/mL at 24 hours in samples in 4 of 16 horses. Plasma flunixin concentrations were below 20ng/mL in all horses at 30 hours, the next sampling point.

No horse should be administered flunixin within 24 hours of racing by regulation. Based on application of the 95/95 tolerance interval calculation to these results, the RMTC Scientific Advisory committee recommends administration of flunixin no closer than 32 hours prior to testing. Treatment of a horse with flunixin within 32 hours of a race or administration of any dose greater than 1.1 mg/kg or by any route other than IV administration should be based upon a careful risk assessment by the veterinarian in concert with the trainer. Treatment of a horse with flunixin within 32 hours of testing at 1.1 mg/kg or at a dose greater than 1.1 mg/kg or by any route other than IV administration carries a risk of a violation.

TRENBOLONE FOUND IN REGUMATE

The Maddy laboratory has identified trenbolone in a specific lot of Regumate (altrenogest) as part of a CHRB investigation into a trenbolone violation. Trenbolone is an anabolic steroid classified as a Class 3 drug carrying a Category B penalty. Altrenogest, the active ingredient in Regumate, is a progestogen used to control estrus in fillies and mares. Even though their pharmacological actions are quite different, both trenbolone and altrenogest are steroid hormones with structural similarities. The manufacturer of Regumate provided the Maddy lab with the manufacturer's retention sample from the lot run in question where a small amount of trenbolone was identified. The lot number containing trenbolone is E122A01, Expiration date 5/2015. Given the relatively common use of Regumate in fillies at race tracks in California and elsewhere we believe such contamination is unusual. However, the two previous trenbolone violations in California were in fillies. In one case the trainer recalls the filly was on Regumate; in the other, the trainer believes the filly was not receiving the medication. The Maddy lab has analyzed five other lot numbers of Regumate for trenbolone, none of which contained trenbolone. The lot numbers tested and without trenbolone are E121A01, E135A01, E138A01, E143A01 and E148A01. The manufacturer is investigating the matter, but until further information is available, trainers and veterinarians must recognize the use of Regumate may result in a trenbolone violation. We will keep you informed as further information becomes available.