

2 November 2018

OFFICIAL NOTICE

ADDITIONAL STIPULATIONS REGARDING ADMINISTRATION OF ALTRENOGEST

On 27 September 2018 HRNZ notified trainers that New Zealand veterinarians had been advised by the Equine Branch of NZ Veterinary Assn to cease using all injectable forms of Altrenogest in racehorses forthwith.

In an update notice released on 28 October 2018, veterinarians are advised that from the 1st November 2018 that they are not to administer oral Altrenogest within 'two clear days' of racing. This update notice replaces the 27th September 2018 notice and is in response to results arising from pharmacokinetic studies in mares.

BACKGROUND:

Altrenogest is exempt under the Prohibited Substance Regulations when used in females. Altrenogest is a powerful progestin of the 19-nortestosterone group with the chemical name of allytrenbolone.

These advisements have been provided because the anabolic steroids Trenbolone and Trienolone have been detected in post-race urine samples in Australia from the use of Altrenogest injections. Trenbolone and Trienolone are impurities found in very low concentrations following the manufacture of the Altrenogest raw material.

Trenbolone and Trienolone are anabolic steroids and prohibited substances under both HRNZ and NZTR Prohibited Substance Regulations.

The use of Altrenogest in the oral form has been extensively used for decades and was first licensed by the ACVM in 1982.

UPDATED RECOMMENDATIONS FROM BY THE EQUINE BRANCH OF NZ VETERINARY ASSN TO EQUINE VETS:

1. Cease using Altrenogest Injections in racing females.
2. When using oral Altrenogest in racing females use the listed label dose rate. Do not double dose.
3. Stop using oral Altrenogest in racing females 'two clear days' from racing.
4. Do not use female hormones including Altrenogest on any male horses at any time. It will be detected in any out of competition testing.

BASIS OF HRNZ POSITION ON THE ADMINISTRATION OF ALTRENOGEST:

Whilst the injectable form must not be used in racehorses for the reason outlined above, the continued use of oral Altrenogest in female horses is acceptable for the following reasons:

1. Health and safety. There is a risk that people may get injured either by colts becoming frisky beside mares in season or mares in season kicking out.
2. Mares in season can produce unreliable form.
3. Keeping race numbers up. Mares in season often don't make it to the races.

Edward Rennell
Chief Executive

Dr Andrew Grierson
HRNZ/NZTR Chief Veterinarian