

This is a sample document only. Please consult your veterinarian for specific advice on quarantine and isolation facilities and related procedures for your facility.

Personnel Entry/Exit Procedures for On-farm Quarantine and Isolation Facilities

Purpose: To avoid potential transmission of an infectious disease agent to resident horses from horses residing in quarantine or isolation and the potential for transmission of a zoonotic disease to humans.

Note: **Isolation** is used to separate horses who have, or are suspected of having, an infectious disease from those who are healthy. This is in contrast to a **quarantine** which is used to separate healthy horses who may have been exposed to an infectious disease, or whose health status is unknown, to see if they become ill. A horse in quarantine that shows signs of disease should be moved into isolation and/or handled using isolation procedures until a veterinarian can examine them. It is important to note that some equine diseases can also cause illness in humans. Consult your veterinarian for disease specific recommendations for quarantine/isolation as well as personal protective equipment to be used when handling sick horses.

Overall

- Ensure all duties with other horses onsite have been completed prior to exposure to animals in quarantine or isolation.
- If possible, have only one person responsible for horses in quarantine / isolation.
- Prepare all feed / equipment / medication / supplies required before entering the quarantine / isolation area.
- Ensure all equipment and supplies (e.g. thermometer or halter) are dedicated to the area and clearly labeled or cleaned and disinfected prior to using.
- Restrict entry to the quarantine / isolation facility to staff required to handle or treat the horse.
- Train new staff and horse owners in entry and exit procedures.
- Limit entry and contact with horses in quarantine or isolation to necessary handling and procedures.

Entry

1. Prepare needed supplies and equipment.
2. Wash hands using proper technique or wear gloves when handling horses.
3. Don protective wear appropriate for the quarantine or isolation facility and the disease status of the horse being observed or treated. Examples:
 - For an apparently healthy horse being observed as part of routine quarantine it would be appropriate to wash your hands before and after handling or use gloves and wear dedicated footwear for routine procedures such as taking a temperature.

- For a clinical ill horse with diarrhea in isolation it would be appropriate to wear disposable coveralls, dedicated boots, gloves and possibly face protection.
 - Note: If not using disposable gear, launder it separate from other items in contact with herd and disinfect area and all equipment after use.
4. Monitor diluted disinfectants daily (e.g. foot baths and spray disinfectants). Once diluted, disinfectants have a specific time they are effective. Check the manufacturer's instructions and label all diluted disinfectants with an expiration date. Ensure the proper dilution is used, as the specific concentrations are necessary for the disinfection process

Exit

1. Dip designated footwear into footbath and scrub organic material adhering to footwear surfaces.
 - Footbath must be changed when contaminated and when disinfectant expires.
2. Remove protective wear (footwear, coveralls, gloves etc.) and leave in dedicated area that is clearly identified.
 - Remove gloves last pulling them off from the inside to not touch the outside of the glove.
3. Place all non-disposable protective wear in a clearly labeled bin or area for re-use or laundering, as appropriate.
4. Don normal footwear.
5. Wash hands.
6. Clean and disinfect, bag / cover equipment that must leave the area, prior to exiting.
 - Properly clean all organic substances (e.g. dirt and manure) off all equipment prior to application of disinfectant. Make note of contact time from manufacturer.
7. Don normal working attire or change clothes prior to handling other horses.
8. Record findings in appropriate quarantine / isolation logbook and initial.