

Coggins Test for EIA

As many equine owners are aware in order to travel within the state of Michigan or across state and country borders with your horse you must have a valid negative Coggins test. A Coggins test is valid from January to December of the current calendar year regardless of whether you have the horse tested early in the year or late in the year. Some states and countries require a negative test within a certain time period, ex: 30 days, six months etc.

A Coggins test is a blood test that detects Equine Infectious Anemia, also known as EIA. EIA is a highly contagious disease that is caused by a virus similar to HIV in humans. EIA cannot be transfer to humans. EIA is transmitted by blood-feeding insects such as deerflies or horseflies. EIA has no cure and a positive horse may not show signs of the disease, again similar to HIV in humans.

Blood for a coggins test can only be drawn by a licensed veterinarian. They will complete an official Coggins form and submitted the blood to an accredited lab so that the test and its results are recognized by the state.

Coggins test can be requested by contacting the clinic at 810-376-2425, select option 1 for large animal. It does take approximately one week for us to receive the completed Coggins results, and this should be kept in mind when scheduling your appointment. Coggins test can be done at the clinic, or at your boarding facility or your farm. The test can be done with vaccinations and teeth floating if needed.

Please keep in mind the following information that the Veterinarian will need to complete the Coggins form:

1. Name and address of Owner
2. Name and address of Stable/Market
3. Official name and/or tag # (Registered name is now required for some show circuits)
4. Tattoo/Brand (if present on horse)
5. Color
6. Breed (list all if more than one)
7. Age (list age to the nearest month or year. Give birth date if known)
8. Sex (Male, Female, Gelding, Mare, Foal etc)
9. Be prepared for three photos to be taken of the horse, Left and right sides, and head.