

Rule Change Type	Effective Date	Draft Received	Board Action
Standard	12/1/2025	8/31/2024	

Rule Change Intent

The intent of the rule change is to allow farriers the same safety net that is allowed to veterinarians while performing similarly (or more) dangerous tasks. The farrier, horse, veterinarian and competitor all benefit when safety is the number one priority. This rule change will benefit farriers who risk injury to themselves when asked to replace shoes on dangerous horses or those who require sedation to be shod (ie a horse with shivers or another neuromuscular disorder) and are asked to do so within the detection time of the alpha 2 agonists xylazine and detomidine (24-72 hours). The medication report must be filled out by a prescribing and supervising veterinarian who administered the sedation and standard withdrawal times adhered to. This means that there will be no competition occurring within 24 hours of the drug being administered, thus definitively no longer having a pharmacological effect. Additionally, the rule specifies that no horse may use more than 3 medication reports for this purpose per calendar year.

Proponent Details	Contact Information
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Linked Rules	Comments
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Committee Actions

GR411 Conditions For Therapeutic Administrations of Prohibited Substances

1. A horse and/or pony exhibiting at a Licensed Competition pursuant to the Therapeutic Substance Provisions that receives any medication which contains a prohibited substance is not eligible for competition unless all of the following requirements have been met and the facts are furnished in writing on a timely-submitted official Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form online. A form is timely-submitted when the electronic form is submitted following administration and before the horse competes (See (i) for paper forms):
 - a. The medication must be therapeutic and necessary for the diagnosis or treatment of an existing illness or injury. Administration of a prohibited substance for non-therapeutic or optional purposes (such as, by way of example only, shipping, clipping, training, turning out, routine floating or cleaning of teeth, non-diagnostic nerve blocking, uncasting, mane pulling or non-emergency shoeing) is not considered to be therapeutic. Any trainer who is uncertain about whether a particular purpose is considered to be therapeutic would be well advised to consult the Federation Equine Drugs and Medications Program office.
 - i. ***Exception: In the event a horse requires sudden and unexpected routine farrier care and poses a safety risk to the farrier, handler, or itself, therapeutic use of detomidine or xylazine is permitted up to three times per competition year with submission of the Equine Drugs and Medication Report Form online.***
 - b. The horse and/or pony must be withdrawn from competition for a period of not less than 24 hours after the medication is administered.
 - c. The medication must be administered by a licensed veterinarian, or, if a veterinarian is unavailable, only by the trainer pursuant to the advice and direction of a veterinarian.
 - d. Identification of medication—the amount, strength and mode of administration.
 - e. Date and time of administration.
 - f. Identification of horse and/or pony, its name, age, sex, color and entry number.
 - g. Diagnosis and reason for administration.
 - h. Statement signed by person administering medication.
 - i. Equine Drugs and Medications Report Form filed following administration and prior to the horse competing. If an online form cannot be submitted due to lack of internet or phone service, a paper form may be submitted. This option may only be used when submitting the online form is impossible.
 - j. The Steward, Technical Delegate, or Designated Competition Office Representative must sign and record the time of receipt on the paper Equine Drugs and Medications Report Forms. The form must be filed with the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative within one hour after administration. If administration occurred outside of competition hours, the form must be filed within one hour after the Steward/Technical Delegate or Designated Competition Office Representative returns to duty if administration took place at a time other than during competition hours.