

## Prohibited Substances in Hair Samples

The USEF Board of Directors will allow the collection and testing of hair samples from competition horses beginning July 1, 2025. This addition aims to strengthen the anti-doping program by detecting substances that may be more difficult to detect in blood or urine samples. This Board action is in response to member feedback that some trainers are misusing prohibited substances to gain a competitive edge at the expense of the horse's health and well-being. USEF remains committed to not only protect the welfare of the horse, but ensure fair competition, too.

Detection of any of the following prohibited substances in a horse's hair sample will subject the trainer and other persons responsible to penalties. See [USEF rules in Chapter 4 \(Drugs and Medications\)](#) and the corresponding [Penalty Guidelines](#) for more details. USEF will provide 30-day's notice for any updates to this list.

- Selective Androgen Receptor Modulator (SARM's) (examples)
  - Andarin
  - Osterine
- Barbiturates (examples)
  - Pentobarbital
  - Phenobarbital
  - Mephbarbital
  - Secobarbital
- Anticonvulsant (specific drugs)
  - Felbamate
  - Phentermine
  - Phenytoin
  - Valproate