



TO ALL USEF STEWARDS AND TECHNICAL DELEGATES

It is important to understand the responsibilities of the Steward or Technical Delegate at a USEF competition as they pertain to the collapse and/or death of a horse. An important consideration related to GR850 is the mandatory collection of a blood sample under this rule. If there is a USEF testing veterinarian on the grounds, they should be contacted to collect the sample. However, if no testing veterinarian is in attendance, it is the responsibility of the competition Steward or Technical Delegate to ensure a veterinarian collect blood samples. If circumstances arise that make this impossible, please contact the USEF Equine Drugs and Medications office immediately (800) 633-2472.

GR850.6 The Steward/TD shall ensure that any horse or pony that collapses at a licensed or endorsed competition is subject to drug and medication testing in accordance with Chapter 4 of these rules. In the absence of a Federation testing veterinarian, a veterinarian appointed under paragraph 4, or the official competition veterinarian is authorized to collect and submit fluid samples in accordance with these rules.

Please familiarize yourself with the entire rule as there are additional responsibilities.

Link to full rule:

Mandatory Reporting and Cooperation of Horse/Pony Collapse Rule GR850

<https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/vYf6d7UQSp8/mandatory-reporting-cooperation-of>

INSTRUCTIONS TO THE VETERINARIAN COLLECTING THE BLOOD SAMPLE

Three tubes of blood should be collected using the most appropriate blood collection tubes. Once the samples have been collected, it is the veterinarian who will be shipping the samples to the laboratory.

To aid in the use of correct blood tubes please review the following:

The tube top colors are based on BD tubes (please note the anti-coagulants in case a different brand has a different color scheme)

Best:

- Green/Gray Marbled (lithium heparin with gel plug)
- Green (sodium heparin or lithium heparin)

Any of the following are also acceptable in any order:

- White (K₂EDTA with plug)
- Pink (K₂EDTA in plastic)
- Lavender (K₂EDTA in plastic or K₃EDTA in glass)
- Tan (K₂EDTA in plastic)
- Gray (potassium oxalate/sodium fluoride or sodium fluoride/Na₂ EDTA or sodium fluoride)
- Yellow (sodium polyanethol sulfonate (SPS) or acid citrate dextrose additives (ACD))

The last choice would be the Red/Gray tops that have no additives.





The light blue tubes will be acceptable IF they contain buffered sodium citrate. Please do not use the light blue tubes with CTAD (citrate, theophylline, adenosine, dipyridamole)

Preference should be given to tubes with separator plugs and tubes that are plastic. Please **do not** use the following tubes used as they all contain coagulating agents:

- Gold
- Red/Gray
- Red
- Orange
- Royal Blue
- Light Blue (if the additive is CTAD)

Once blood samples have been collected, please contact the Federation's **Equine Drugs and Medications Program** for further shipping instructions, including carrier account information.

medequestrian@aol.com (800) 633-2472

If you have any questions about the material referenced, please contact US Equestrian's Equine Drugs and Medications Program using the contact information above.

Additional resources for officials at US Equestrian Events:

Drug and Medications Guidelines:

https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/2Zp2C_YKs4s/drugs-medications-guidelines

Biosecurity Measures for Horses at Home and at Competitions:

<https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/KR7Mdoc5tCw/biosecurity-measures-for-horses-at-home>

Medication Report Form – Electronic

<https://competitions.usef.org/medicationreportform/usef>

Medication Report Form – Paper

https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/tlC_Kitk5jE/medication-report-form---paper

Mandatory Necropsy Rule GR843

<https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/S8NGrgVULhk/mandatory-necropsy-rule>

Equine Vaccination Rule GR845

<https://www.usef.org/forms-pubs/ANcxoLX1gNs/equine-vaccination-rule-gr845>

