



## IN THE WORKS

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- In an RMTC-funded project to develop uniform withdrawal times for eight drugs that are responsible for a substantial number of rule violations each year, the University of Florida Pharmacokinetics Laboratory has completed administrations studies on butorphanol, methocarbamol and pyrilamine using a 20-horse stable. Plasma samples were collected for each drug out to 72 hours post-administration and have been sent to Iowa State University, the University of Pennsylvania and the University of Florida Racing Laboratory for analysis. Sample analysis for butorphanol and methocarbamol is complete and the data is currently being analyzed in order to develop a recommendation to the RMTC Board. The other drugs in the first phase of the project are acepromazine, lidocaine, mepivacaine, glycopyrrolate and detomidine. The goal of the project is to create uniform withdrawal times with a corresponding regulating concentration of drug in plasma; however, due to the rapid elimination of some drugs from the blood, urine may also be necessary in order to establish this concentration.

The second phase of the project includes dexamethasone, methylprednisolone, hydroxyzine, dantrolene, fluphenazine, firocoxib and the anabolic steroids.

The RMTC is open to suggestions from practitioners on other drugs to be added to the priority list for future studies.

- The RMTC has collected commission provided and anecdotal withdrawal times for a variety of therapeutic medications over the past year. The withdrawal times have been placed into a searchable database accessible on the RMTC website ([www.rmtcnet.com](http://www.rmtcnet.com)). Since late May, when the guidelines debuted on the RMTC website, nearly 2,000 users have visited the site. The section enables licensed veterinarians to look up guidelines for withdrawal times for approximately 75 therapeutic medications. There are now 20 states that have withdrawal times listed.

Many of the drugs also contain a PDF attachment providing more detailed information, including metabolism data and a complete bibliography, for download.

**\*\*\*These are not the RMTC's recommended guidelines; they are merely a library of existing guidelines. The RMTC cannot verify that if such guidelines are followed, they will be effective in preventing all medication violations.**

The RMTTC is always looking for additional withdrawal times particularly in those states which do not currently have any information. Any practitioners that can provide additional withdrawal times for inclusion in the database may please contact Jackie Flint at 859-224-2844 or [jflint@rmtcnet.com](mailto:jflint@rmtcnet.com).

- The first phase of the RMTTC and RCI Model Rules on medication continues to be adopted across the country. At present, 32 of the 38 pari-mutuel jurisdictions have adopted or are in the process of adopting the first release. The second release contains updated and simplified penalty language and has been adopted by two jurisdictions and is currently in the process of being adopted by 13 additional jurisdictions. The most recent additions to Chapters 11 and 25 of the model rules include language for out-of-competition testing and the regulation of anabolic steroids. At least 12 jurisdictions are discussing adopting and implementing this language.

The urinary thresholds in the model rule on anabolic steroids would permit a withdrawal time of approximately 30 days for stanozolol, boldenone and testosterone, and 45 days for nandrolone.

The most current version of Chapters 11 and 25 of the Model Rules, "EQUINE VETERINARY PRACTICES, HEALTH AND MEDICATION," is always available for download at the University of Arizona Race Track Industry Program website (<http://www.ua-rtip.org/>).

- The RMTTC has funded two cycles of scientific grants since its inception. Eleven grants with a total dollar expenditure of over \$600,000 have been awarded. Several of the projects have been completed and are published or awaiting publication.
- The RMTTC has begun initial work on developing post-race testing laboratory minimum standards and is discussing an industry-wide laboratory accreditation program with corresponding quality assurance and proficiency programs. The first step is a broad survey of current laboratory methodologies and equipment levels and current funding levels, which is anticipated to be complete by the first quarter of 2008.
- The RMTTC Security/Investigative Training Program has been sent to racing commissions across the country. The program is contained in a manual that includes step-by-step plans and guidelines to conduct a training session for security personnel along with a DVD produced by the Thoroughbred Racing Protective Bureau. The goal of the program is to enable commissions and racetracks to train security employees to better understand and carry out their duties and responsibilities.