



HORSES IN RESEARCH

The British Equine Veterinary Association believes that in order to further knowledge concerning equine disease, and its treatment and prevention, it is sometimes necessary to use horses in research. No horse can be used for research unless the research project has been approved and licensed by the Home Office. The Home Office requires justification that the research is necessary, with potential tangible benefits for the health and welfare of horses, and that the minimum number of horses is used, which will satisfy statistical analysis of the data. A horse cannot be used in more than one research project simultaneously and the welfare of the horse is considered at all stages of the research project, including the judicious use of pain relief where necessary. The Home Office has strict guidelines for the management of research horses, with for example minimum requirements for stable size. The British Equine Veterinary Association therefore believes that the use of horses in research both can be justified and is well regulated.

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