

EIA/ Coggins Testing

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It's Fall and with that comes an increase in trail rides, stock shows, rodeos, and other equine related events. Current Texas Animal Health Commission (TAHC) regulations require owners to have a current (within the previous 12 months) Equine Infectious Anemia (EIA, aka Coggins) test on all equine that are sold or co-mingled with other equine at events, exhibitions, public stables, or other assemblies.

Producers of these events are responsible for checking the EIA test paperwork at the event. Often a TAHC employee will assist them. Please remind your clients not to be surprised if they are asked to present their EIA test paperwork prior to entering an event.

Below are a few helpful tips that may make their next trip go smoother. By following these simple tips it should speed up the process for them and those behind them running late at the gate for that next event.

- Advise your client to check the date on their EIA test document. Make sure that the blood draw date for the sample is within the previous 12 months.
- Make sure that they have test papers for every equine they are hauling, even if the animal is owned by someone else.
- Make sure that the test papers describe the horse correctly. As a veterinarian you can help by utilizing electronic forms and photos. If you still use the standard test form (10-11) make sure that you identify all markings, scars, brands, tattoos, correctly to eliminate any potential problems.
- You may want to offer to make additional copies of the test papers for the truck and/or trailer that they commonly use. Copies are acceptable as long as they are legible, and they need to have an original signature from the veterinarian who did the testing.
- Call ahead and verify what the event requires for entry. In some cases a CVI (Certificate of Veterinary Inspection) or additional tests may be required. Most Interstate events require CVI's and some states require entry permits. [A simple call to the receiving state](#) can save a lot of headaches for both the veterinarian and your client.
- We also suggest and recommend maintaining a filing system that would allow you and/or your staff to quickly access an EIA test document if needed.

By following these simple tips, your client's next trip should go smoother for them and prevent those frantic last minute calls.

