Infectious Disease Prevention

Disease prevention relies on a combination of good biosecurity and vaccination.

- Vaccination is the best way to prevent your horse from contracting respiratory diseases that are caused by viruses or bacteria.
- Use dedicated stable equipment for each horse to help avoid infections, for example individual buckets, brushes, tack etc.
- Try to avoid horse to horse contact and shared water at shows or events and if you handle another horse wash your hands before handling your horse again.
- Disinfect stables and equipment between horse usage with disinfectants which will kill viruses and bacteria.
- If a horse on your yard is suspected to have an infectious disease; it must be isolated immediately to prevent spread.
- All new horses on a yard should also be quarantined on arrival for at least two weeks and monitored for signs of disease.
- Isolation areas can be as simple as an isolated paddock or stable.

Establish a yard protocol

Ideally your yard should have a protocol providing clear rules as to what should be done in the event of a potential infectious disease case.

This protocol should apply to all horses on the yard and is much easier to establish prior to any outbreak.

The yard protocol should state what vaccinations horses should have prior to entering the yard as this will help to reduce the likelihood of the infectious disease.