

For further information on Equine  
VetCompass and other VetCompass  
projects

visit [www.rvc.ac.uk/vetcompass](http://www.rvc.ac.uk/vetcompass)

or

email [seallen@rvc.ac.uk](mailto:seallen@rvc.ac.uk)

### Our Thanks

The **Equine VetCompass** team sincerely thank all participating practices and horse owners for their support. Together, we will contribute to a healthier and happier future for our horses.

Supported by:



**Equine Health Surveillance**  
**Guiding Evidence-Based Healthcare**



## This veterinary practice is taking part in Equine VetCompass, a novel surveillance project that will provide much needed insight into the health of horses and ponies in the UK.

**Equine VetCompass** is a nationwide initiative to improve health and disease monitoring within the general horse population. Detailed knowledge of the types and frequency of disease occurring, is essential for the safeguarding of equine health and welfare; however this information is currently in short supply. **Equine VetCompass** collaborate with a number of veterinary practices to produce this valuable information.

### How does Equine VetCompass work?

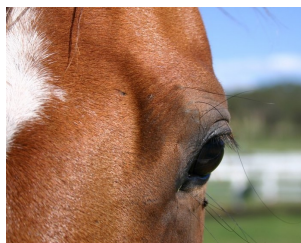


All vets routinely document details about the disorders they treat in patient records.

**Equine VetCompass** collects key information from these records for research purposes.

**Equine VetCompass** researchers analyse the records to determine:

- What diseases are present
- The number of horses affected
- Which horses are at increased risk of being affected by a particular disease



**Equine VetCompass** also explores the geographical distribution of disease and will monitor for changes in disease prevalence over time, in order to identify new and changing threats to horse health.

**Equine VetCompass** generates reliable disease statistics. These will be made readily available to vets to inform and improve veterinary care, and to researchers so that work is directed towards projects that will benefit large numbers of horses.

## Working together to improve equine health

### What information is collected?

**Equine VetCompass** collects patient details including breed, sex, age and microchip number, along with clinical notes, diagnosis and treatment plan. Before transfer to the secure **Equine VetCompass** database, your record is stripped of all sensitive information such as your name, full address and financial details ensuring complete anonymity.



**Equine VetCompass** employs strict protocols for record collection, storage and usage and fully complies with the Data Protection Act.

### Has Equine VetCompass received ethical approval?

Yes, **Equine VetCompass** is approved by the RVC's Clinical Research and Ethical Review Board. The project is also supported by The Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons, the regulatory body for veterinary surgeons in the UK.

### What do I need to do?

Unless you say otherwise, your veterinary practice will assume that you are happy for your horse's records to be shared with **Equine VetCompass**. If you would prefer not to take part, please let your veterinary practice know.



**“The RCVS acknowledges the important role of primary practice databases in progressing our understanding of companion animal disease, health and welfare”**

Royal College of Veterinary Surgeons