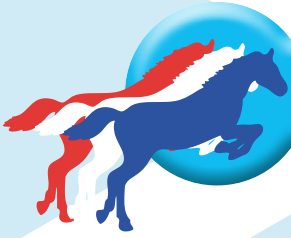




**SAC**  
CONSULTING



**PASS**

Premium Assured Strangles Scheme



# What is Strangles

Strangles, caused by the bacteria *Streptococcus equi subspecies equi* (*S. equi*) is a serious and ongoing problem in Scotland and the rest of the UK.

The Strangles Health Scheme is an initiative launched by SAC Consulting Veterinary Services (a division of SRUC) and supported by BHS Scotland.



The shaded area shows the location of the guttural pouch, a natural hiding place for Strangles. Up to 10% of horses may become persistent carriers of Strangles following an outbreak.

## Aims of the Strangles Health Scheme

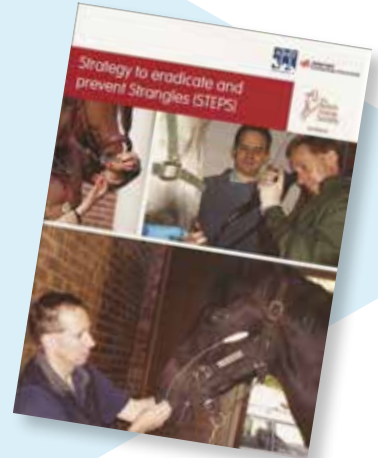
- To protect horses and livery yards from infection with Strangles.
- To reduce the spread of disease in local areas through increasing scheme membership.
- To provide an effective mechanism for the equine industry to tackle Strangles on a national scale, and stop the uncontrolled spread of the disease.



SAC Veterinary Services uses tests that have been developed by The Animal Health Trust, a leading Strangles authority.

## What is Involved?

- The livery yard owner applies to join the scheme, with the agreement of their clients and veterinary surgeons.
- All horses are blood tested annually.
- If any horses show evidence of exposure to Strangles further tests to check for carrier status are performed. Any carrier horses are isolated and treated to eliminate infection.
- Certificates are issued when all horses test negative.
- Member yards follow the 'STEPS' guidelines, to further reduce the risk from Strangles.
- The private veterinary surgeon is involved at every stage of sampling, advice and treatment.



SAC Consulting Veterinary Services recommends the 'STEPS' guidelines.

## Benefits of the Scheme

- The risk of disease in horses on member yards is significantly reduced through a proactive approach to the elimination of Strangles.
- Member yards enjoy an enhanced status amongst the equine community, and are recognised as having robust protocols in place for Strangles prevention.
- The cost of Strangles testing for members is discounted.

*"Together we can beat Strangles"*



*The scheme has  
been developed in  
conjunction with BHS  
Scotland*

## For further information

The scheme is being launched now! if you would like further information please contact your veterinary surgeon or SAC Veterinary Services on **0131 535 3130 (VCEdinburgh@sac.co.uk)**

[www.sac.co.uk](http://www.sac.co.uk)