

Pathology Report



30/7/2008

To Queensland Department of Primary Industries & Fisheries

I examined Loddie Smith, a Clydesdale gelding, DOB October 2005, microchip number 939000001104283, on Sunday June 16 2008. Loddie had been hospitalised the previously at Redlands Veterinary Hospital. He had been home for 3 days when his temperature began to spike with consistent readings of over 39 degrees Celsius. His heart rate was markedly elevated, mildly elevated respiratory rate. Gum colour was pink, refill 1 second. No abnormalities of heart or lung sounds were detected. Gut sounds were normal. The horse was bright, alert and responsive, and eating throughout the period of examination. Faeces were soft possibly being due to an epsom salt drench administered earlier in the day. Loddies temperature remained elevated above 39.5 despite treatment including NSAIDs and IV fluids. Loddies temperature spiked to over 40 degrees at approximately 9pm that night. Loddie was physically cooled by hosing and the temperature finally dropped to normal early the following morning. Loddie's owner arranged transport back to Redlands Veterinary Hospital for further treatment on 17/6/08. Blood test abnormalities include mild hypoalbuminaemia, elevated AST and CPK. Loddies owner informed me the horse was ataxic on 17/6/08 before transport to Redlands. The horse passed away early morning on the 19/6/08. Loddie's clinical signs and history were consistent with Hendra virus contamination. No tissue was available for testing to confirm the diagnosis.

Yours sincerely

