# ENVIRONMENTAL AND PUBLIC PROTECTION CABINET

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**TO :** **Trainers and Practicing Racetrack Veterinarians**

**FROM :** **Lafe Nichols, D.V.M. KHRA Chief Veterinarian**

**DATE:** **September 28, 2007**

**RE :** **Recent series of Flunixin (Banamine) overages**

**We have had several Banamine overages recently and thought this would be a good time to circulate a reminder regarding the permitted procedures for Banamine. Banamine may be administered not less than 24 hours before post time for the race in which the horse is entered by a single intravenous injection (0.5 mg/lb). The concentration in the horse's sample is not to exceed twenty (20) nanograms per milliliter of plasma or serum when tested post race.**

**It has come to our attention that the use of oral Banamine may have been a contributing factor in a recent group of Banamine overages reported by our KHRA testing laboratory. While the use of oral Banamine is certainly permissible in this jurisdiction, indiscriminant, and/or prolonged use prior to race day, combined with the intravenous dose commonly used 24 hours pre-race may produce serum levels of Banamine above the threshold limits.**

**The published KHRA recommended withdrawal time of 24 hours for Banamine is based solely on the standard dose via intravenous administration. Kentucky has no current withdrawal recommendation concerning oral Banamine. However jurisdictions that do address oral administration typically suggest that the oral products require a longer period to clear, (e.g., Texas IV : 36 hrs. and p.o. : 48 hrs.).**

**In an effort to avoid any further problems with Banamine overages, we strongly suggest trainers advise their veterinarians of any oral medications given to their horses and to discuss, in detail, their pre-race medication protocols.**