FEI™

EVENTING

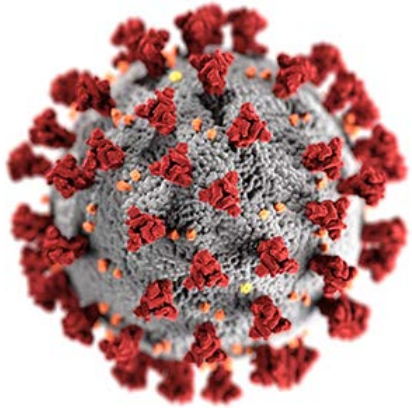
Online Eventing Risk Management Seminar 23 January 2021

- **Coronavirus related to Risk Management**
- **Body Protectors and other protective equipment**
- **Eventing Annex D – Medical Coverage**

Dr Mark Hart (USA), Chair of FEI Medical Committee

Coronavirus related to Risk Management

Covid-19 Update



What is SARS-CoV-2 ?

- Evolution of "Coronavirus" variants
- Animal-human vector transmission
- SARS, MERS
- Genomic mapping

- Covid-19 Incidence
  - Currently has infected over 100,000,000 people globally with greater than 2,000,000 deaths (likely an underestimate especially with infections)
  - Why is this particular virus causing a worldwide pandemic ("R" value)?
  - Is Covid-19 more deadly than the prior global pandemic of 1917-18 (relative vs absolute numbers)

- New Covid-19 genetic mutations
  - UK variant (B 1.1.7)
  - South African (1.351)
  - Brazil (P. 1)

- Predicting the Covid-19 pandemic course in 2021

Symptoms of Covid-19

Symptoms of COVID-19, cold, influenza

Symptoms	COVID-19	Influenza (Flu)	Cold
Dry cough	+++	+++	++
Phlegmy cough	- -	- -	+++
Fever	+++	+++	-
Loss of smell/ taste	+++	- -	- -
Runny nose	++	++	+++
Sneezing	- -	-	+++
Sore throat	++	++	+++
Shortness of breath	++	- -	- -
Headache	++	+++	-
Body aches	++	+++	+++
Exhaustion	++	+++	++
Diarrhea	-	+	- -

+++ Frequent ++ Sometimes + Occasionally - Rare -- Not observed

DW Quelle: WHO, CDC

Covid-19 Mitigation Measures

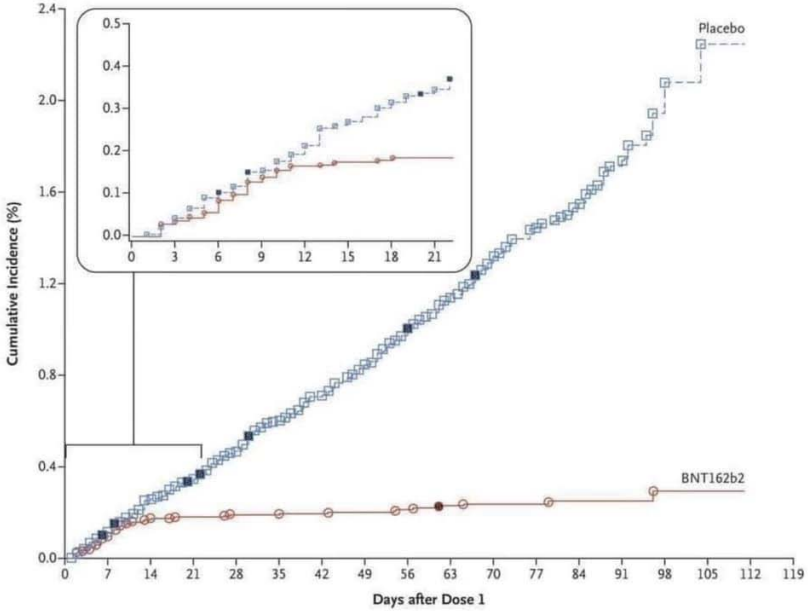
- Prevention Measures
  - Masks, social distancing, avoiding groups (especially indoors) and hand washing

- Covid-19 Testing
  - Active infection = “contagious” (antigen vs PCR)
  - Prior infection= acquired immunity (antibody testing)

- Evolving Medical Treatment of Covid-19
  - Different disease in different people, unpredictable morbidity and mortality
  - Early, mid-stage and late treatment options
  - “Long-haulers” syndrome

- Covid-19 Vaccine Development
  - Principles of immunizations (safety and effectiveness)
  - Unparalleled development timeframe for Covid-19 vaccines
  - Currently available vaccines Pfizer, Moderna, Oxford-AstraZeneca, Johnson&Johnson, Novavax China (2), Russia (2), India (1)
  - There are 20 additional vaccines in advanced Phase 3 trials worldwide

Pfizer vaccine



Efficacy End-Point Subgroup	BNT162b2, 30 μg (N=21,669)		Placebo (N=21,686)		VE (95% CI)
	No. of participants	Surveillance time *person-yr (no. at risk)*	No. of participants	Surveillance time *person-yr (no. at risk)*	*percent*
Covid-19 occurrence					
After dose 1	50	4.015 (21,314)	275	3.982 (21,258)	82.0 (75.6–86.9)
After dose 1 to before dose 2	39		82		52.4 (29.5–68.4)
Dose 2 to 7 days after dose 2	2		21		90.5 (61.0–98.9)
≥7 Days after dose 2	9		172		94.8 (89.8–97.6)

FEI Response to Covid-19

- Initial cancellation of all FEI Competitions worldwide
- Created FEI Policy for Enhanced Competition Safety during Covid-19 https://inside.fei.org/fei/covid-19/return-to-play and https://inside.fei.org/fei/covid-19/return-to-play/policy-tools
- Created supplemental discipline-specific guideline https://inside.fei.org/sites/default/files/Covid-19%20guidelines%20for%20FEI%20Eventing%20Events.pdf
- Integrated World Health Organization public health and protocols and risk assessment tools to create equestrian specific to assist organizers
  - Assess feasibility/safety of holding competition event
  - Screen/exclude Covid-19 positive persons from entering venue
  - Organizational and venue structural mitigation measures
  - Recommendations/Education for all involved stakeholders of Covid-19 mitigation measures
  - Masks, social distancing, avoiding groups, hand washing
  - Monitoring compliance
  - FEI HQ/Board support for Covid-19 related modification of rules/polices to enhance safety
- What worked
- What didn't
- What do we need to do to improve our Covid-19 Policy going forward in 2021

Covid-19 issues for Tokyo Olympics

- Local conditions in Japan
- Country specific Covid-19 infection rates
- Role of vaccinations
- Testing protocols
- Pre-departure, arrival, on-site
- Counter measure considerations
- Athlete/staff flow
- Spectators ??
- Accreditations/SACD (supplemental access control devices) to limit access
- Equestrian specific issues
- Small equestrian venue footprint
- Separate cross-country venue
- Issues with key support personnel (grooms, farriers, vets, judges, stewards, etc)
- Replacement protocols for athletes/staff

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS

Body Protectors and Safety Vest Research Issues

Equestrian helmet rating initiative (Virginia Tech Helmet research)

- Helmets are currently certified to international standards on a pass/fail basis

- Developing an Equestrian specific helmet rating system to supplement certification standards based on real-world injury scenarios and concussion risk for equestrian sports

- Equestrian Specific Issues
  - Horses weigh over 1,000 lbs (450 kg) and travel at speeds up to 35 mph (55 kmh) over obstacles
  - Riders head position is approximately 9 feet (2,7 meters) off the ground
  - Horse unpredictability
  - Low incidence but high severity head injuries
  - Linear and rotational head accelerations
  - Equestrian sports greatest contributor of all sports related Traumatic Brain Injuries (TBI's)
  - 50% risk reduction in TBI's with use of currently available equestrian helmets

Safety Vest Research Issues

- Conflicting research for effectiveness of air vests
- Use of protective vests in other disciplines (practices vs evidence)

Eventing Annex D – Medical Coverage

Eventing Annex D
(Medical coverage for FEI competitions)

- Specific guidelines are recommended but not mandatory until Jan 1, 2023 (Please refer to page 82 of the FEI Eventing Rules 2021 published under Eventing-Rules https://inside.fei.org/node/3822/)

- Medical Committee and Eventing Committee would appreciate all feedback on issues related to implementation of these new measures

THANK YOU

QUESTIONS