

RCI MODEL RULES COMMITTEE
PETITION FOR NEW RULE OR CHANGE TO EXISTING RULE

Please submit the following information to the Chair of the Model Rules Committee at least 45 days in advance of the next scheduled committee meeting to www.rules@arci.com.

Your Contact Information:

Name:	Michael Tanner/ Michele Kopiec/ TC Lane
Organization:	USTA
Address:	
Phone(s):	
Fax #:	
E-mail Address:	Michele.kopiec@ustrotting.com

A. Brief Description of the Issue: *Two medications that are extensively used in human medicine, Metformin and Gabapentin, have been appearing as likely contaminants passed in unchanged form from humans.*

B. Discussion of the Issue and Problem

Provide background on the issue to build context. Address the following:

- *What specific problems or concerns are involved in this issue?* Metformin is the third-most prescribed drug in the United States for humans, with dozens, if not more, of environmental contamination positives having been called/detected in the past year. Published research indicates that a screening limit of 5 ng/ml in plasma would be appropriate. A screening limit of 8 ng/ml in plasma for Gabapentin **has been implemented in Ohio.** – **can't find reference
- *Who does the issue affect?* Standardbred Industry
- *What existing model rules relate to this issue?* Uniform Classification Guidelines
- **Provide relevant quantitative or statistical information if possible. ***need published research from HRMC**

C. Possible Solutions and Impact

Provide possible recommendations to solve the problem. Include details on each proposed solution such as

- *What solution does this proposal provide?* Addresses the issue of environmental contamination of two commonly prescribed human medications, gives thresholds recommended by HRMC for Standardbreds.
- *How will the solution fix the problem?* Provides thresholds for substances that are currently no-threshold.
- *How will the change affect any entities or stakeholders?* Self-explanatory
- *How will you or your organization be affected by the proposed change?* As above

- *What are the benefits of the proposed change? As above*
- *What are the possible drawbacks of the proposed change? None known*
- *Identify possible fiscal impact of the recommended change. None*

D. Please identify any affected stakeholder groups that expressed support or opposition. (These stakeholders may include the racetracks, breed registries, owners, trainers, jockeys, veterinarians, or others.)

- *For those stakeholder groups that have expressed an opinion, please list the points on which they agree or disagree, and the arguments they have expressed.*
- *Are there any affected stakeholder groups that have not been consulted on this proposal?*
- *Please submit any formal letters of support or opposition by stakeholder groups. The USTA Board of Directors has declared that the Harness Racing Medication Collaborative has been established as the entity to develop thresholds and/or screening levels for medications in use in harness racing.*

E. Attach the model rule language you are proposing. Please show new language with underlined text. If you are proposing that current model rule language be eliminated, please strikeout the language to be deleted.

Metformin, at 5 ng/ml in plasma
Gabapentin, at 8 ng/ml also plasma

F. Do any racing jurisdictions currently have a version of this rule in effect? If yes, please attach copies of those rules. *Pennsylvania has similar rule currently in effect.*

G. Review the RCI Model Rules and identify any other Model Rules this change would affect and submit proposed amendments to those rules to comply with changes that would be made by this proposal. *Uniform Classification Guidelines*

FILING THIS REQUEST WITH RCI DOES NOT GUARANTEE YOUR PROPOSAL WILL BE CONSIDERED BY THE MODEL RULES COMMITTEE. IF YOU HAVE OPPOSITION FROM AN INTERESTED PARTY, YOU ARE STRONGLY ENCOURAGED TO TRY TO REACH CONSENSUS PRIOR TO FILING THIS FORM.