

Welcome to the AERC 100-mile rider questionnaire

FAQ

1. *Question: What the heck is this?*
Answer: This is an AERC-authorized survey to provide follow-up information on pulls and treatments on 100 milers. Statistically, 100-mile horses are nearly 12 times more likely than LD horses to experience endurance-related fatalities. Anyone who will ride a 100-miler is, by definition, very determined, very motivated, and a glutton for punishment. Filling out this survey will be easier than the ride.
2. *Question: Does the AERC officially approve this investigation? Is USEF also a partner in funding this research?*
Answer: Yes! Yes!
3. *Question: How many 100-milers will be asked to participate?*
Answer: All 100-milers are invited to participate. Stamped, addressed questionnaires will be available at the ride site. Also, the survey will be online for either direct entry of data or downloading
4. *Question: Who recommended this research?*
Answer: The 2009 AERC Research Summit identified this as one of their five concerns.
5. *Question: Why is it so long?*
Answer: We are trying to look at all relevant risk factors so the questions are designed to be exhaustive. The questionnaire is 14 pages.
6. *Question: Who is coordinating this?*
Answer: AERC Research Committee.
7. *Question: What is the ultimate objective?*
Answer: Simply, to reduce sickness and death in endurance horses.
8. *Question: How anonymous will my responses be?*
Answer: Very anonymous! A very few people will see the original completed survey with all personal identifiers. All identifiers of specific people and horses will be deleted from any published or reported findings.
9. *Question: Why I am being asked, my horse successfully completed 100-mile NC ride?*
Answer: Data will be analyzed as a case-control study. Case-control studies are used to identify factors that may contribute to a medical condition by comparing subjects who have that condition (the 'cases') with subjects who do not have the condition but are otherwise similar (the 'controls').
10. *Question: How is the questionnaire to be completed?*
Answer: The first portion, pages 1 – 9, can be completed immediately before the ride. On pages 9 – 13, there are questions about "Ride Details and Horse Management during the Ride" that can be answered immediately after the ride. The last page has questions that can be answered 24 hours after the finish of the ride. Upon completion, immediately mail to Olin Balch DVM, PO Box 344, Cascade, Idaho 83611
11. *Question: Who should I grumble to or make suggestions about this questionnaire?*
Answer: Olin Balch, Research Committee; 208-315-3898; obalch@earthlink.net