

Fact Sheet - Arsenic Threshold

From 1 July 2016, a new national rule was introduced that makes arsenic a prohibited substance when it is present in a greyhound at a mass concentration above 800 nanograms per millilitre.

Arsenic is currently identified as a category 5 prohibited substance under the Greyhound Racing NSW (GRNSW) Penalty System with the starting point for the determination of penalty sitting at 12 weeks disqualification.

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Participants are advised to be extremely cautious using products that contain arsenic close to racing. The administration, particularly by injection, on multiple occasions or at larger 'off-label' doses, of certain registered vitamin supplements close to racing may result in a breach of the threshold level.

Examples of injectable vitamin supplements that contain arsenic include: NV Ferrocyl Injection (Sodium Cacodylate 6.4 mg/mL), NV Jurocyl (Sodium Arsanilate 50 mg/mL), TROY Invigorate As Injection (Sodium Arsanilate 50 mg/mL) and Jurox ARCYL Solution For Injection (Sodium Arsanilate 50 mg/mL).

GRNSW also advises that some seaweed based nutritional supplements have been found to have high concentrations of arsenic and should not be used close to racing.

Participants are urged to ensure they follow all veterinary and manufacturer directions when using products that may contain arsenic. They should also observe at least the minimum withholding guidelines and exercise caution when using a combination of products containing arsenic.

Ultimately it is the responsibility of each trainer to carefully consider the use of any supplements and additives to ensure that the greyhound is presented for racing free of any prohibited substance.

For a current list of Australian Pesticides and Veterinary Medicines Authority registered products that contain arsenic visit: <https://portal.apvma.gov.au/pubcris>.