



**Blackall-Tambo**  
Regional Council

# **Blackall Saleyards – Q Fever Policy**

**11 November 2016**

Policy Number:

Version Number: One

**Chief Executive Officer  
Chris Blanch**

**Mayor  
Cr Andrew Martin**

A handwritten signature in black ink, reading "Andrew P. Martin".

.....

.....



## What is Q Fever?

Q Fever is a disease that can be spread to humans mainly from cattle, sheep and goats. The germ is spread in the urine, faeces and milk, but birth fluids, the foetus and the placenta are the most dangerous sources. When infected fluids dry out, the germ can remain alive in the dust for years.

People can also become infected by being splashed with infected fluids, or by breathing in infected dust.

When infected some people experience no signs, while others just feel a little 'off colour' for a few days. Most people, however, feel like they have a bad case of the 'flu, with fever and sweating, nausea, vomiting and diarrhoea for 7 to 10 days. For most people, these signs pass and there are no more problems. If you already have heart problems, you may get infection of the heart valves and severe illness as a result.

It is very rare for anybody to die of Q Fever, although some people may get other problems months or years after the first signs of disease have passed. These take the form of extreme tiredness and weakness, even after minor exercise, muscle pains, headaches, fever, and depression. This form of the disease, Post Q Fever Fatigue Syndrome, often lasts for years, and may make work, and many other aspects of normal life, impossible.

While the early disease can be very unpleasant, preventing this long lasting disease is the main aim of Q Fever vaccination.

## Are you immune to Q Fever?

You are probably immune to Q Fever and cannot get the disease if you have ever had:

a vaccination against Q Fever, a test to say that you are immune, or the Q Fever disease diagnosed by a doctor. If you don't know if you have had the disease, or a vaccination against it then your employer will ask you to have a test to check if you are immune. If you aren't immune then you will probably need to have a vaccination to protect you from Q Fever in the future.



## Vaccinations

The Black Stump Medical Centre  
78 Thistle Street, Blackall Qld 4472  
Telephone 07 4657 4677

is registered on the Australian Federal Government register to provide Q Fever testing and vaccination services.

## Employees and Contractors employed by the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council requires all employees and contractors engaged by Council to operate the facility to be immunised at Councils cost. Evidence of immunisation will be collected and retained on Councils confidential files, and the Q Fever Government register.

## Regular Users and Agencies

Regular users and others not employed by the Blackall-Tambo Regional Council are urged to ensure they and any employees they have are immunised and listed on the Australian Government Q Fever register.

Council reserves the right to demand proof of immunisation.

## Others

Blackall-Tambo Regional Council urges all users of the Blackall Saleyards facility to be immunised against Q Fever.

## Further Information

[www.qfever.org](http://www.qfever.org) or call 1300 QFEVER (1300 733 837)

Policy Effective: 11 November 2016

Review Date: 10 November 2019

Authorised

**CD Blanch, Chief Executive Officer**

Policy Number: N/A	Version number: One	Adopted by Blackall-Tambo Regional Council	Page 3 of 3
--------------------	---------------------	--	-------------