# BHA launches initiative to combat gene doping in racehorses



The British Horseracing Authority (BHA) has announced a new initiative aimed at combating potential gene doping in racehorses, marking a significant development in the integrity of horse racing in the UK. As part of its expanded anti-doping programme, the BHA has allocated nearly £2 million for comprehensive research into the detection methods associated with gene manipulation techniques.

While the BHA has indicated that there is currently no evidence of gene doping being employed in racing, the organisation is taking proactive steps to safeguard against potential future risks of corruption in the sport. Gene doping is described as the practice of using genetic or cellular manipulation of DNA, which can involve gene editing or transfer techniques. These methods are intended to enhance an athlete's performance or expedite their recovery after exertion.

The BHA's decision underscores its commitment to maintaining the integrity of British racing, ensuring that the sport remains fair and free from modern doping techniques that leverage advancements in genetic research and technology. By implementing these measures, the BHA aims to stay ahead of potential challenges within the industry and reassure stakeholders about the integrity of competitive racing.

Source: [Noah Wire Services](https://www.noahwire.com)

## References

* <https://www.ifhaonline.org/default.asp?section=About+IFHA&area=101> - This URL supports the claim that international bodies like the International Federation of Horseracing Authorities (IFHA) are involved in regulating and safeguarding against gene doping in horse racing, emphasizing the importance of maintaining the sport's integrity.
* <https://equimanagement.com/industry/gene-doping-in-horse-sport-concerns-and-perspectives/> - This article explains the concept of gene doping and its potential impact on horse racing, highlighting the efforts of regulatory bodies to address this issue and prevent the misuse of genetic technologies.
* <https://www.britishhorseracing.com/> - This is the official website of the British Horseracing Authority (BHA), which would provide information about their initiatives and announcements regarding gene doping and anti-doping programs.
* <https://www.fei.org/> - The Fédération Equestre Internationale (FEI) also plays a role in prohibiting gene doping and ensuring clean sport, which aligns with the BHA's anti-doping efforts.
* <https://www.researchgate.net/publication/360605348_Gene_editing_in_horses_a_review_of_the_current_status_and_future_prospects> - This research publication discusses gene editing in horses, providing insight into the scientific aspects of genetic manipulation and its implications for the equine industry.