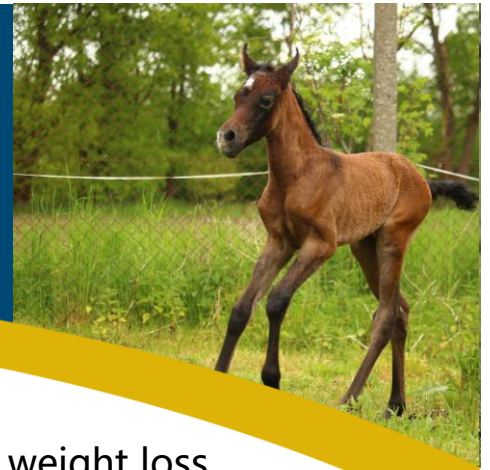


Cryptosporidiosis



What is Cryptosporidiosis?

- Parasites infect the intestine and cause diarrhea and weight loss.
- *Cryptosporidium parvum* is commonly seen in foals 1 - 4 weeks of age.
- Immunocompromised foals or foals that are stressed are particularly at risk of infection.
- Many horses recover fully, but infection can be fatal if left untreated.
- The parasite can be transmitted from horses to humans.

What you can do to keep your horse healthy:

- Cryptosporidiosis can be challenging to prevent and control. There are no vaccines currently available for Cryptosporidiosis. Oocysts shed in feces are very hardy and can survive for extended periods in the environment. They are also resistant to many disinfectants.
- Good biosecurity protocols, including isolation of infected foals and disinfection of contaminated areas, are the best ways to prevent Cryptosporidiosis.

Signs

Diarrhea
Dehydration
Weight loss
Subclinical infection may be common in adult horses and foals that appear healthy

Transmission

Ingest parasite in food or water
Can be transmitted from horses to humans in contaminated water, soil, or surfaces

Treatment

No specific treatment
Therapy is largely supportive

**If your horse needs medical care, contact the Large Animal Clinic at (530) 752-1393.*



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