Equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy

What is equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy?
• The neurological form of equine herpesvirus 1 (EHV-1) (other forms cause respiratory infection, neonatal infection, abortion)
• Attacks brain and spinal cord, can be fatal
• Horses can show no signs of infection but still shed the virus
• Spread by horse-to-horse contact, contaminated hands, equipment, and for a brief period in the air in the immediate environment

What you can do to keep your horse healthy:
• Limit horse-to-horse contact
• Limit horse-to-human-to-horse contact
• Avoid use of communal water sources
• Avoid sharing of equipment unless thoroughly cleaned and disinfected between uses
• Monitor horses for clinical signs and isolate sick horses

Signs
Fever >102°F
Nasal discharge
Cough
Weakness
Dog-sitting
Toe-dragging
Lethargy

Transmission
• Horse-to-horse contact
• Contaminated hands, equipment, tack
• Briefly in the air in immediate environment

Treatment
• Isolation
• Anti-inflammatories
• Fluids
• Slings to help horses that are unable to stand on their own

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