Equine infectious anemia

What is equine infectious anemia?
• Disease caused by the equine infectious anemia virus
• No vaccine and no known treatment
• Although EIA can result in serious outcomes, infections are rare.
• A Coggins test is commonly used to determine if a horse has EIA.
• Infected horses become lifelong carriers that pose a transmission risk to other horses.

What you can do to keep your horse healthy:
• Reduce exposure to biting flies through management
• Never reuse needles or syringes
• Use a sterile needle each time you puncture a multi-dose medication bottle.
• Clean and cover open wounds.
• Test every horse at least annually.
• Separate horses with fevers, inappetence and/or lethargy
• Require proof of a recent negative EIA test for new horses entering the premises or when purchasing a new horse.

Signs
Nonspecific
Vary in severity
Fever
Lethargy
Anemia
Decreased appetite
Sudden death

Transmission
Flies
Contaminated instruments
Contaminated equipment

Treatment
No treatment or “cure”
Positive cases must be reported by the testing laboratory to local state or federal animal health officials within 2 days of discovery.

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