

# 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.*



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