

Equine influenza (flu)



What is equine influenza (flu)?

- Highly contagious respiratory disease
- Short incubation time (1-3 days)
- Horses can show no signs of infection but still shed the virus
- Increased cases in winter (Nov – Mar)
- Outbreaks result in significant economic losses to the equine industry, and are more likely to occur where large groups of horses gather, such as shows, races and events.

What you can do to keep your horse healthy:

- Vaccinate. Vaccinate. Vaccinate.
- Adhere to proper biosecurity protocols
- Work closely with your veterinarian
- Be proactive – take your horse's temperature, isolate animals that may be sick, call your veterinarian, perform diagnostics

Signs

Fever
Nasal discharge
Cough
Lethargy
Loss of appetite
Weakness

Transmission

Contact with infected:

- Horses
- Clothing
- Equipment
- Brushes
- Tack

Treatment

- Rest
- Supportive care
- NSAIDs (for fever \geq 104°F)
- Antibiotics (in some cases)

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



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