

Western Equine Encephalitis (WEE)



What is western equine encephalitis?

- Viral, vector-borne disease that causes inflammation of the brain.
- Mosquitoes transmit the virus from infected birds to horses and humans.
- There is no cure for WEE but the prognosis is fair.
- Survivors can have permanent neurological impairment.
- Horses and humans infected with WEE are not contagious to other animals or people.

What you can do to keep your horse healthy:

- Horses should be kept up to date on vaccinations, usually administered yearly. Boosters may be advised when outbreaks occur. Work with your veterinarian to establish an appropriate vaccination schedule for your horse and situation.
- In addition to vaccination, it is important to practice good vector control to protect your horse from WEE.

Signs

Tremors
Weakness
Ataxia
Paralysis
Seizures
Recumbency

Transmission

Transmitted by
mosquitoes

Treatment

Supportive care

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



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