

EQUINE HERPESVIRUS TYPE 1 (EHV-1) RESPIRATORY AND REPRODUCTIVE DISEASE

QUICK FACTS

General Facts

Equine herpesvirus type 1 (EHV-1) is a very common infectious virus of horses. It can cause respiratory disease, late-term abortions, early foal deaths and neurologic disease. Here, we will focus on EHV-1 induced respiratory and reproductive disease.

- Disease varies in severity
- Can affect horses of any age
- Spread via coughing horses; direct and indirect contact; nasal secretions; contact with aborted fetuses, placental and fetal fluids
- Most horses are exposed at a young age and become latent carriers for life
- Disease can be reactivated by stress
- Virus shedding can occur silently and last for more than 10 days¹
- Incubation period is 24 hours to 6 days or longer
- Major cause of viral abortion outbreaks in mares
- Abortion can occur weeks to months following virus exposure with no clinical signs

Watch for these Signs of Respiratory and Reproductive Disease

- ⚠️ Fever (>101.5°)
- ⚠️ Coughing
- ⚠️ Nasal discharge
- ⚠️ Lethargy/depression
- ⚠️ Neonatal death
- ⚠️ Late-term abortion (7+ months)



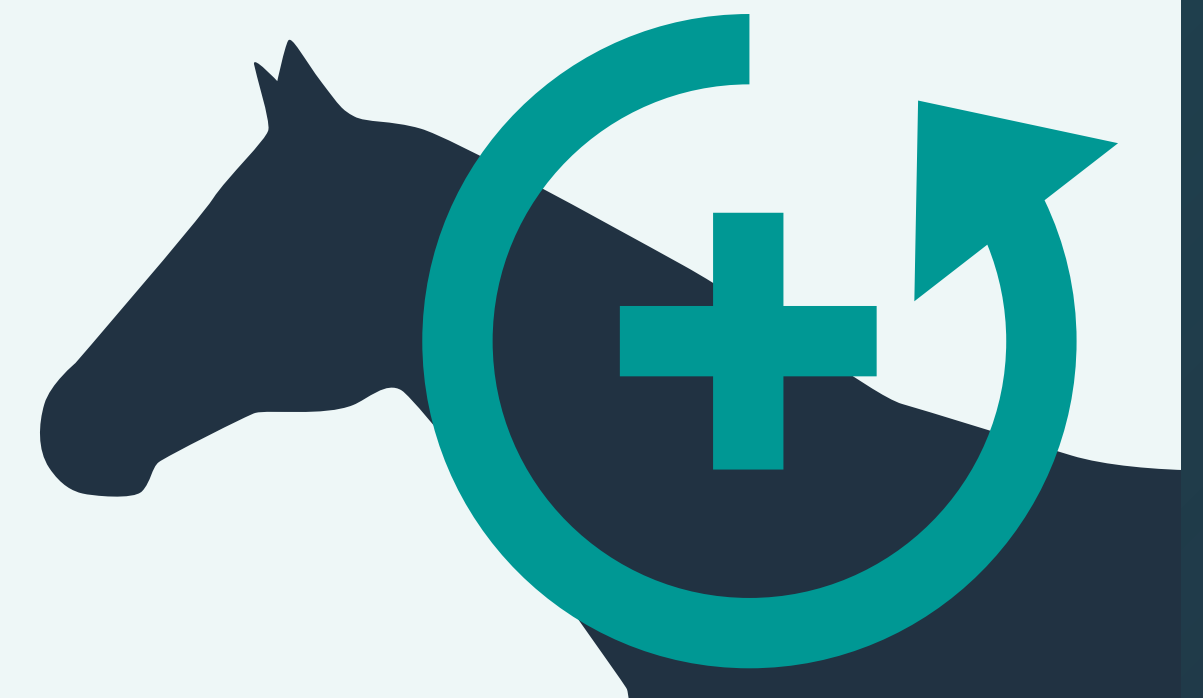
Diagnosis

- Respiratory disease diagnosis is performed with a nasal swab and/or blood sample submitted for polymerase-chain reaction (PCR) testing
- Cause of abortion is diagnosed by laboratory evaluation of the aborted fetus and/or placenta



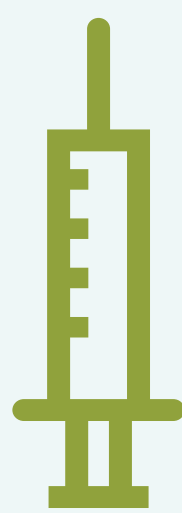
Treatment and Recovery

- Supportive care and rest. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory products, such as Banamine® (flunixin meglumine) may be prescribed
- Immediate removal of aborted fetus and placenta
- Separate and isolate aborting mare from herd and provide appropriate uterine care
- Recovery depends on severity of disease



Vaccination is the #1 Way to Protect Your Horse Against EHV-1 Respiratory and Reproductive Disease

- PRESTIGE® EHV family of vaccines are effective against respiratory and reproductive disease
- Horses at risk should be revaccinated at 6-month intervals²
 - Horses that travel and are in frequent contact with large numbers of horses
 - Horses at home exposed to traveling horses
 - Horses with compromised or immature immune systems
- Vaccinate pregnant mares at 5, 7 and 9 months of gestation with an inactivated EHV-1 vaccine, such as PRESTIGE® PRODIGY®, which reduces abortions.³



REMEMBER: Vaccination + Biosecurity is Best!

- EHV-1 is highly contagious and spreads rapidly
- Avoid nose-to-nose contact with other horses
- Isolate all new entries or horses returning to the stable from travel
- Check temperatures at least once and preferably twice daily (Normal = 99°F - 101°F)
- Isolate any horse with elevated temperature and/or occurrence of unprovoked coughing
- Do not share tack, water buckets or feed sources
- Practice good hand hygiene (hand sanitizers in absence of soap and water)
- Clean and disinfect hauling equipment like trailers after each use
- Contact your veterinarian immediately to schedule a comprehensive examination



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

www.equinediseasecc.org/disease-information
www.AAEP.org/guidelines
www.aphis.usda.gov

Talk to your veterinarian today to see if your horse is at risk for EHV-1 and determine the appropriate vaccination program. For more information on the PRESTIGE® line of EHV vaccines, visit www.PrestigeVaccines.com.

¹EQUINE HERPESVIRUS MYELOENCEPHALOPATHY (EHM) QUICK FACTS" also available.
²AAEP Infectious Disease Guidelines: Equine Herpesvirus 1 & 4, Revised 2017.
³AAEP Risk-Based Vaccination Guidelines (www.aaep.org)
⁴For more information regarding safety and efficacy data, go to productdata.aphis.usda.gov



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