

**Fall Equine Disease Concerns**

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As the crisp fall air arrives, equine vaccination may not be at the top of everyone's mind. However, particularly for horses traveling and in contact with many different horses and environments, booster vaccinations may be warranted to help prevent highly contagious diseases, such as equine influenza virus (EIV) and equine herpesvirus (EHV). In addition, vector-borne diseases such as eastern/western equine encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE) and West Nile virus (WNV) rear their ugly heads most often in the late summer and fall, when mosquito populations peak.

There are also regional disease considerations, as some parts of the country experience extended warm weather seasons, which can lead to spikes in certain infectious diseases in the late summer and fall months. For horses residing in or traveling to areas where disease is endemic, a booster vaccination may be recommended. The Equine Disease Communication Center ([www.equinediseasecc.org](http://www.equinediseasecc.org)) is a great resource to help monitor and track infectious disease reports throughout the country.

Every horse is different. A veterinary consultation is important to determine the unique vaccination needs of each horse. Considerations include the horse’s age, environment, use, risk of exposure to disease, as well as geographic location the horse lives in or may travel to. For more information, visit the American Association of Equine Practitioners (AAEP) vaccination guidelines at [www.aaep.org/guidelines](http://www.aaep.org/guidelines).

For more information on the PRESTIGE® line of vaccines from Merck Animal Health, visit [www.prestigevaccines.com](http://www.prestigevaccines.com), or contact your sales representative.

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