

THE ABC AND D's OF BIOSECURITY

TRENDING UP

- Horses congregating in large numbers
 - Boarding and training facilities
 - Trail rides
 - Racetracks
 - Horse shows/events
 - Fairgrounds
 - Breeding facilities
- Movement in our equine populations
- Large equine events with 100's, even 1,000's of horses together
- Geographic diversity of horses congregating (from across the country and world)
- Indoor competitions → increased risk of airborne disease transmission
- Stress of competing and traveling → lowered immune defenses

A ARM YOURSELF WITH INFORMATION

WHY BIOSECURITY MATTERS

- Vital to the economic health of the equine industry
- Lifesaving for your horse (and other horses)
- Saves you money (prevent versus treat illness)
 - Cost to treat a respiratory infection: couple hundred dollars to couple thousand dollars*
 - Cost of vaccination: \$60–120/year

*Range based on disease severity



B BE AWARE OF THE MAJOR THREATS

DISEASE THREATS ARE EVERYWHERE – AT HOME AND AWAY

HOME



- Traveling horses returning home
- Visiting horses or new arrivals
- Shared trailers, buckets, equipment
- Horses in adjacent fields
- Professionals (veterinarian, farrier, feed delivery, etc.) – hands, equipment, clothing
- Wildlife

AWAY



- Stalls
- Horses in adjacent stalls
- Trailers
- Travel stress
- Shared equipment and water sources
- Vehicles coming and going
- Event officials and support personnel
- Human hands and clothing

WHAT IS THAT DISEASE?

EHV-1 and EHV-4 (“rhino”): After initial infection, herpesvirus remains dormant (latent) in the horse; stress can reactivate the virus, and viral shedding can occur without symptoms.

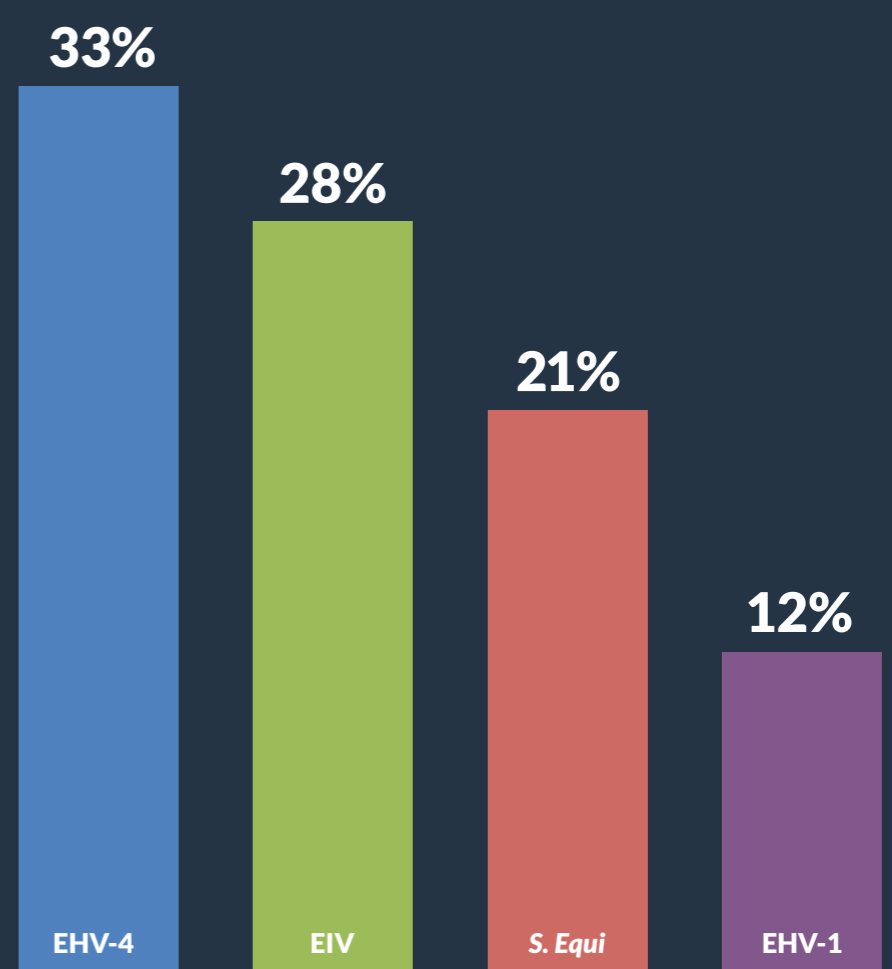
- EHV-4 is typically associated with upper respiratory disease in younger horses
- EHV-1 can cause respiratory disease, late-term abortions, early foal deaths, neurologic disease

EIV: Equine flu is perhaps the most contagious and quick to spread.

- Can spread up to 200 yards from a coughing horse
- Destroys the cells lining the airways, requiring significant recovery time

S. equi: Strangles or “distemper” – abscess-forming bacteria that often appears as enlarged, swollen and tender lymph nodes around the horse’s head.

MOST COMMON CULPRITS OF CONTAGIOUS EQUINE DISEASE OUTBREAKS¹



Disease Incidence 2008–June 2016¹
(as a percentage of total positive samples)

¹Merck Animal Health and University of California, Davis (Nicola Pusterla). Infectious Upper Respiratory Disease Surveillance Program. Ongoing research 2008–present.

C COMMIT TO BIOSECURITY PREPAREDNESS AND TAKE ACTION

IT ONLY TAKES ONE

1 UNVACCINATED HORSE

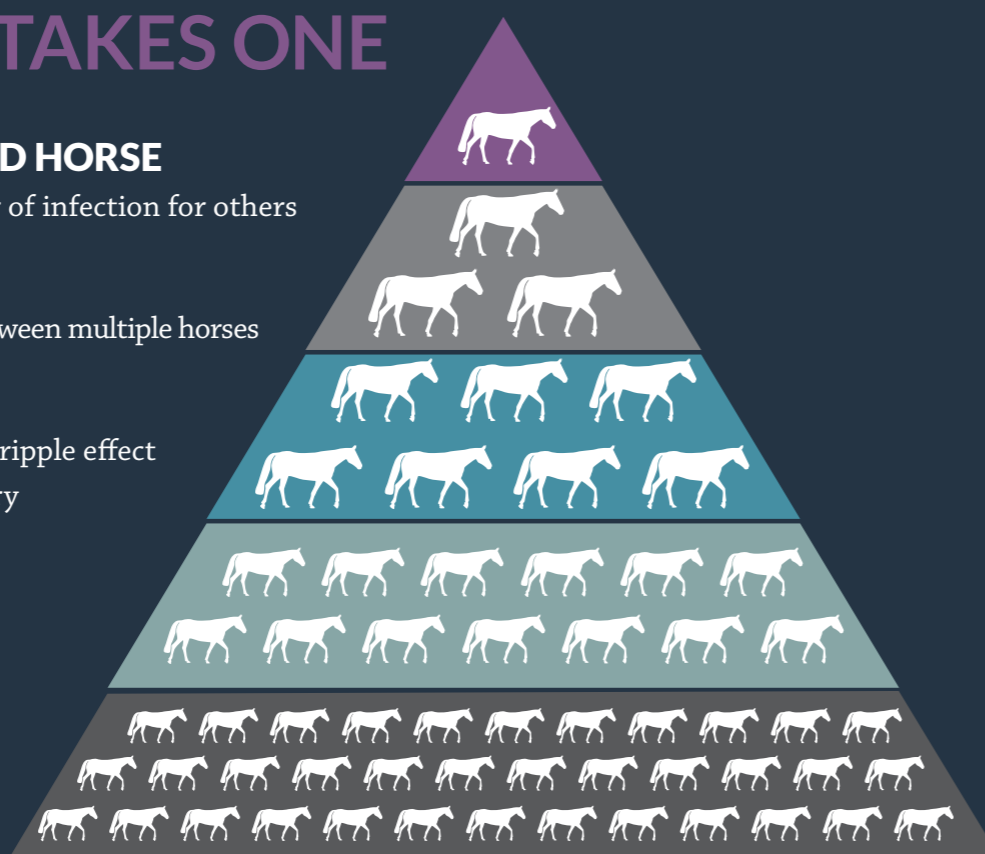
can serve as a reservoir of infection for others

1 PERSON

can transmit disease between multiple horses

1 OUTBREAK

can have a devastating ripple effect throughout the industry



FIVE BIOSECURITY TIPS YOU CAN IMPLEMENT TODAY



1) Include all horses in your vaccination program



2) Monitor your horse’s temperature daily. An elevated temperature is the first sign of disease



3) Practice good hand hygiene — wash hands after you touch one horse before touching another



4) Minimize nose-to-nose contact and avoid use of communal equipment and water sources



5) Separate and monitor horses post travel, as well as new arrivals

D DEVELOP A HERD HEALTH PLAN WITH YOUR VETERINARIAN

VACCINATION + BIOSECURITY IS BEST!

Work with your veterinarian to implement a vaccination and biosecurity protocol appropriate for your horse and farm. If you suspect infectious disease, contact your veterinarian immediately.

The Science of Healthier Animals