

One World
One Medicine

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vector-borne
diseases,
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One Health



EEE

Eastern Equine
Encephalitis

What you need to know about EEE...

Where is it found? Eastern Canada, all states east of the Mississippi river, Arkansas, Minnesota, Texas, South Dakota, Caribbean islands, central and South America.

What does it look like?

EEE affects the central nervous system so clinical signs are neurologic. Some signs include behavior changes, trouble walking, weakness, circling, head-pressing, and seizures.

Death occurs 2-3 days after



infection. Mortality rates for EEE are high, ranging from 50-90%.

How do they get it? EEE is transmitted by mosquitos. It goes from a mosquito to a vertebrate and back to a mosquito. Birds and horses are commonly affected by EEE but humans can be infected too.

Can I get it too? Though rare, human infections can occur. Symptoms can range from flu-like signs to death. Children, the elderly, and those who have compromised immunity are at the greatest risk of infection. Use insect repellents to protect yourself!

How can I stop it?

Vaccines for EEE and other viral encephalitides are available. A booster should be given once or twice a year depending on location. You should vaccinate more often in areas where mosquito populations are high. Contact your veterinarian to set up a vaccination schedule for your horses.

Mosquito prevention is important. Eliminate areas of standing water where mosquitos breed and use insecticides to control adult mosquitos. Use insect repellents on your horses and put fans and/or screens in stalls to keep mosquitos away.