

Guidelines for Risk Assessment

Because equine herpesvirus is a highly contagious disease, horses should be considered at risk for exposure if they:

1. Have been shipped commercially with horses from multiple venues.
2. Venues that have historically been implicated in outbreaks include quarantine stations, rest farms for commercial shipping, veterinary clinics, race tracks, polo events and hunter/jumper/dressage shows.

Other risk factors should be *considered in addition to* travel history:

1. Recent exposure to sick horses including horses that only have increased rectal temperature without any other explanation such as recent surgery, vaccination, other medical conditions associated with fever.
2. Recent exposure to horses that have acute neurologic signs especially if a non-infectious cause has been ruled out.

If risk assessment places your horse or client in this risk group, you should take the following precautions immediately:

THESE GUIDELINES are adopted from

http://www.aaep.org/pdfs/control_guidelines/Biosecurity_instructions%201.pdf

Veterinarians-THESE are ONLY excerpts

Horsemen: Ask your veterinarian to download further instructions from this website!

Implement Primary Biosecurity Perimeter

STOP HORSE MOVEMENT

1. Confine horse to stall or move immediately to separate facility
2. ALL horses with clinical signs no matter how mild must be placed in this area

DISEASE SURVEILLANCE

1. Take rectal temperature twice per day and record & centralize evaluation of all rectal temperatures daily
2. If owner is recording, contact veterinarian immediately
3. Veterinarians should perform physical examination on all suspect horses and run appropriate clinical and diagnostic testing.

LIMIT HUMAN ACCESS

1. Access is limited to essential personnel only: veterinarians and caretakers
2. All personnel should be trained and follow biosecurity protocols
3. Security personnel may need to be placed at access points

QUARANTINE: CONFIRMED CASES

1. Once a positive horse is identified either state or voluntary quarantine should be imposed.
2. Length of quarantine: 21 days after the LAST clinical sign which is usually temperature.
3. Expect quarantine to last 28 to 35 days.
4. **Exit test requirements: negative for EHV-1 shedding from nasal cavity and NO virus detected in blood.**

Implement Secondary Perimeter

It is extremely important to identify a secondary perimeter. This is important to allow exercise of horses and limited continuation of internal organized activities.

1. Definition: entire facility, venue, township, etc. ALL animals within the secondary perimeter are considered free of infection, but at increased risk exposure and development of disease. Thus enhanced surveillance is necessary.
2. Movement: Horses can only travel from outside of this facility and under regulation of the veterinarian in charge
3. Record arrival/departure of ANY horse: Date, Origin, Destination, Carrier Information
4. Surveillance: all horses twice daily and daily physical inspection for disease
5. Entrance Health Requirements: Health Certificate, Vaccination recommendation of veterinarian in charge
6. Exit Health Requirements: Health certificate with disease endorsement-FREE OF EHV-1 signed by veterinarian in charge, vaccination requirements met as specified by receiving venue.
7. **Exit testing requirements: negative for EHV-1 shedding from nasal cavity and NO virus detected in blood.**