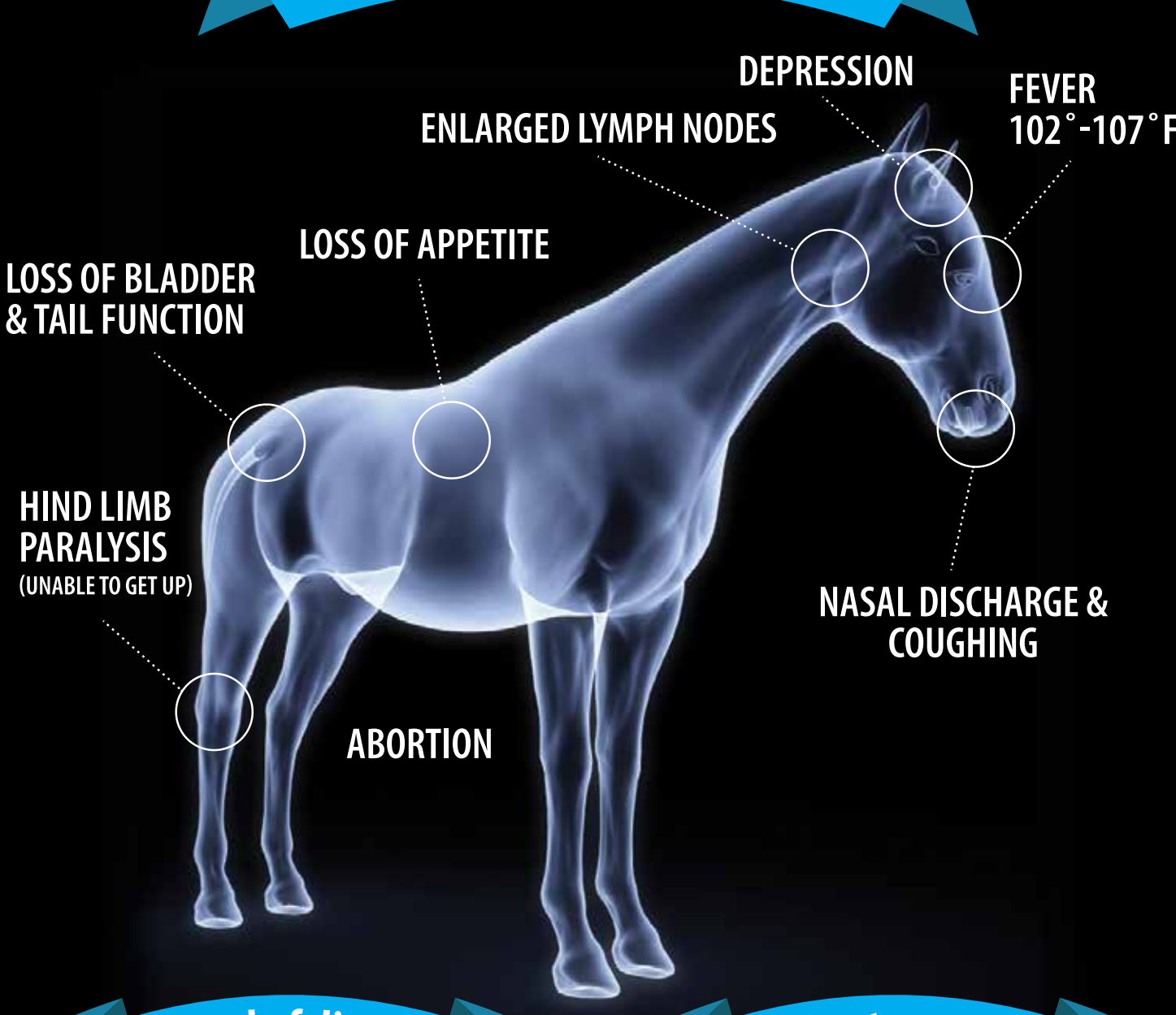


EHV

EQUINE Herpes Virus

Starting in the respiratory tract with flu-like coughing and sneezing, then spreading through the neurological system causing paralysis, equine herpes virus is a major threat to horse populations worldwide.¹

Common Clinical Signs²



Spread of disease

Highly contagious and spreads rapidly via:

Direct contact

- Infected horse coming into contact with uninfected horse
 - nose to nose contact²

Indirect contact

- Tack and grooming equipment shared between horses
- Clothing that has been contaminated with nasal discharge of infected horse
- Shared water or feed buckets²

Travel via air

- Cough, sneeze²

Contact with EHV aborted fetus, placenta, placental fluid⁴

Once infected, horses can become latent carriers of EHV

- EHV may reactivate after stress or high doses of corticosteroids.⁴

Treatments



EHV is a VIRUS, so there is no 100% CURE⁶

Supportive care helps with recovery, such as:

1. Non-steroidal anti-inflammatory drugs:

- Reduce fever
- Ease pain
- Decrease inflammation
- Keep animal comfortable which encourages eating and drinking²

2. Antibiotics help fight secondary infections²

3. Uncomplicated cases:

Recovery occurs in a few weeks²

4. Complicated cases:

Recovery rates vary depending on the severity of illness²

Prevention & Management of Infection

Prevention

1. Isolate new horses for 3 to 4 weeks to observe for signs.²
2. Reduce stressors to prevent stress-induced reactivation in carrier horses.²
3. Keep pregnant mares away from horses that frequently travel.²
4. Monitor horses following a travel event for any clinical signs of disease.³
5. Report any temperature over 102° F to your veterinarian.³

Management

1. Isolate infected horse.²
2. Quarantine for 3 weeks after all clinical signs subside.²
3. Establish a sanitizing regimen for handling infected horses, including:²
 - Washing hands after handling each horse, disinfecting shoes, changing clothes before working with uninfected horses.
4. Virus lasts several weeks in the environment, but can be killed by common disinfectants, such as bleach.²
 - Disinfect: stalls, aisles, surfaces, grooming tools, tack, stable equipment, water and feed containers.
5. Remove stall bedding and burn.²

Vaccination

1. To establish resistance to infection prior to exposure without inducing disease⁷
2. Several vaccines available for protection against EHV-1 causes of⁷
 - Respiratory disease
 - Abortion
3. No licensed vaccine available for protection against EHM (myeloencephalic form of EHV-1)⁷
 - Use of EHV-1 vaccine may reduce outbreaks of EHM by limiting
 - Nasal shedding
 - Spread of infection

Types of vaccines

Inactivated vaccines available to:

1. Protect against respiratory disease⁷

- Carry a low antigen load
- Performance results are dependent on vaccine

2. Protect against both respiratory disease and abortion⁷

- Carry a high antigen load
- Performance results are superior as shown through evidence of
 - Increased antibody responses
 - Cellular responses

Modied live vaccines:

1. One licensed modied live EHV-1 vaccine available⁷

- Used to vaccinate healthy horses 3 months of age or older
- Aids in the prevention of EHV-1 respiratory disease

Vaccination use

1. Foals, weanlings, yearlings, and animals at high risk of exposure of EHV-1⁷

- Reduces clinical signs and spread of rhinopneumonitis

2. Pregnant Mares⁷

- Helps prevents EHV-1 induced abortions

Consistent vaccination use

1. Reduces spread and severity of disease⁷

2. With mares⁷

- May limit the number of abortions
- Best step to limit EHV-1 in pregnant mares is through biosecurity and defined management practices



Did you know

1. Most Mature Horses Will Already Have Natural Immunity Which Helps Them To Avoid A Serious Case Of EHV
2. Natural Immunity Does Not Prevent The Spread Of The Disease To Other Horses.

1. <https://e.yimg.com/fz/api/res/1.2/NLFPk3lV9FHAWYb0SMg--YYBwaW09c3JjaGRkO2g9MzUwO3E9OTU7d201MjU-/http://uncw.edu/research/stories/race/assets/images/symptoms.jpg>
2. <http://animalscience.uconn.edu/extension/publications/factsheetpdfs/herpesvirus.pdf>
3. http://www.cdffa.ca.gov/AHFSS/Animal_Health/Equine_Herpes_Virus.html
4. <http://horsetalk.co.nz/2013/05/22/equine-herpes-virus-1-essential-guide/#axzz3j3BsP2Vp>
5. <http://www2.ca.uky.edu/gluck/biblioehv1.asp>
6. www.petmd.com/horse/conditions/reproductive/c_hr_equine_herpes_virus
7. <http://www.aaep.org/+1-173.html>