

EASTERN/WESTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALOMYELITIS (EEE/WEE)

QUICK FACTS

Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE)

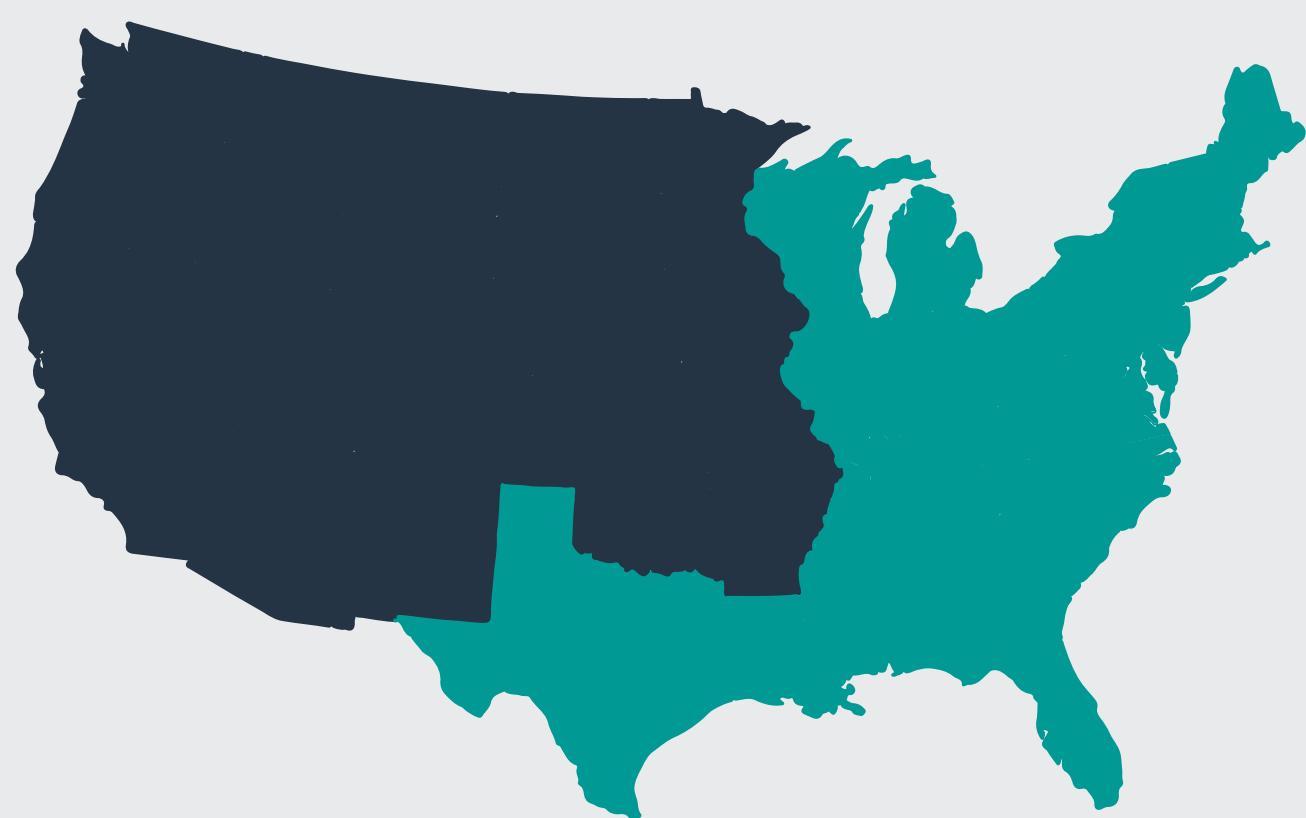
- Causes severe and often fatal neurologic disease in horses, humans and other mammals
- EEE is found primarily in the Southeastern United States, but cases have occurred in all states east of the Mississippi River and as far west as Texas



- 75-95% mortality rate
- Incubation period is 3-7 days

Western Equine Encephalomyelitis (WEE)

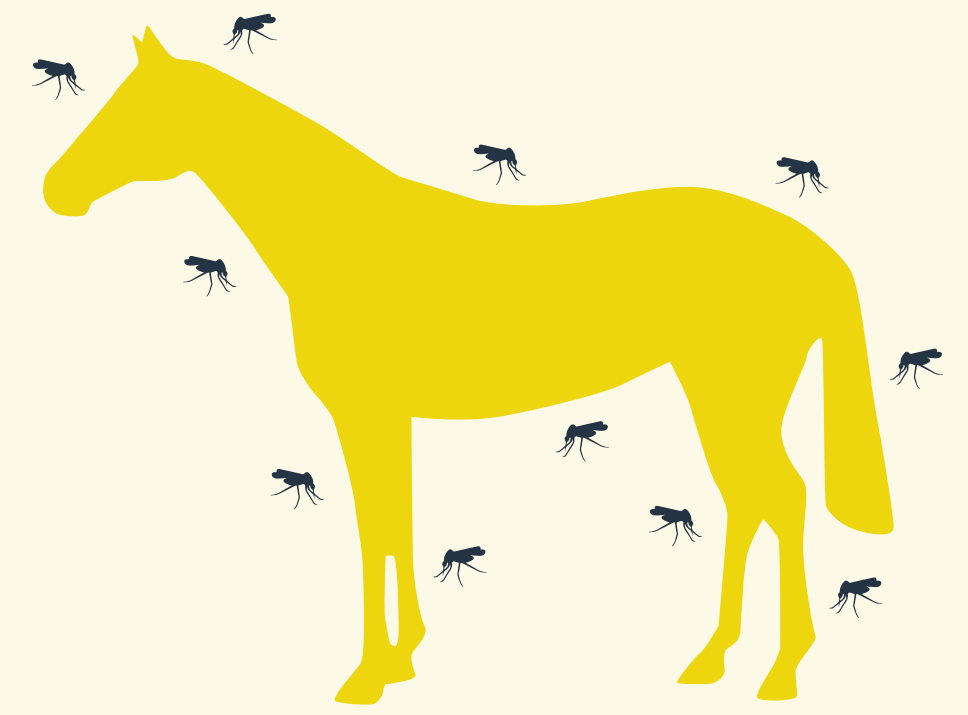
- Cases primarily occur in the Western United States and very infrequently in parts of the Midwest
- WEE has caused minimal disease in horses the last two decades, but continues to be detected in mosquitoes and birds throughout the Western states



- 20-40% mortality rate
- Incubation period is 2 days to 3 weeks

General Facts

- EEE/WEE – viral infection of brain and spinal cord
- Infected horses are not contagious
- Virus transmission requires infected mosquito bite to occur
- EEE is most prevalent and deadly
- ALL horses should be vaccinated every year¹



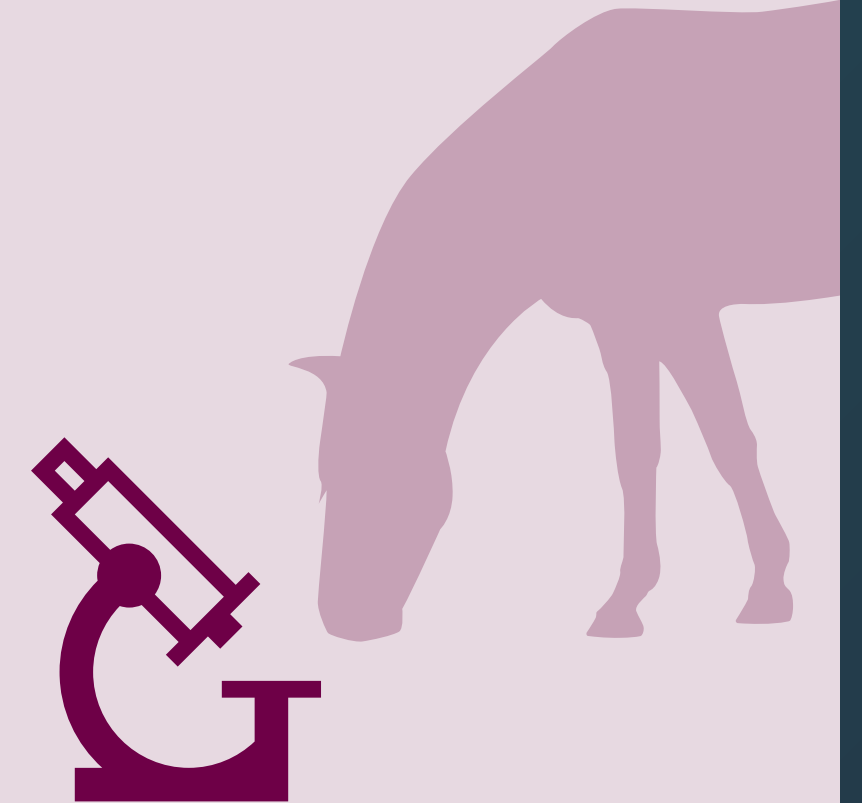
Contact your veterinarian immediately if your horse is exhibiting any of these signs

- ⚠ Depression
- ⚠ Moderate to high fever (102.5-104.5°F)
- ⚠ Lack of appetite
- ⚠ Change in behavior
- ⚠ Muscle fasciculations (twitching)
- ⚠ Facial paralysis and weakness of the tongue
- ⚠ Incoordination/ataxia in one or all limbs
- ⚠ Head tilt, ear droop, difficulty swallowing
- ⚠ Recumbency (inability to rise)
- ⚠ Colic
- ⚠ Death



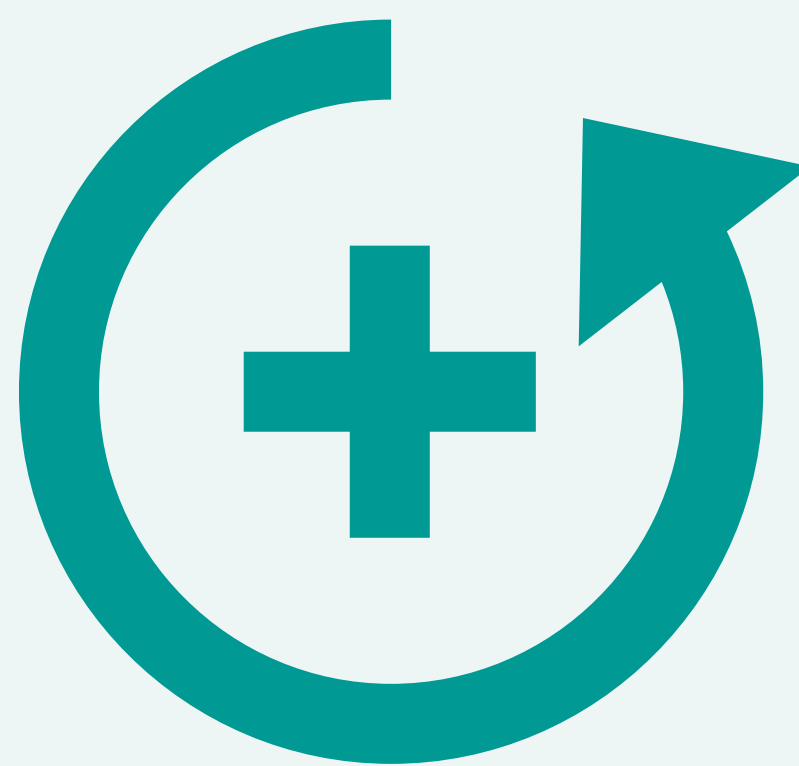
Diagnosis

- Diagnosis is based on clinical signs
- Confirm with a blood test.



Treatment and Recovery

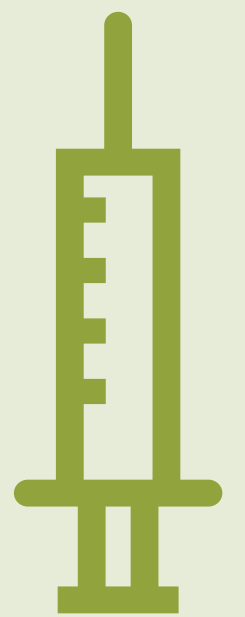
- There is no cure for EEE or WEE.
- Supportive care is focused on systematic support, managing inflammation and avoiding further injury



Prevention

Vaccination is the No. 1 way to protect your horse:

- Initial vaccination followed by a booster in 3-4 weeks. Yearly vaccination thereafter
- More frequent boosters may be recommended in areas with year-round mosquito seasons or for immune-compromised horses



Minimize your horse's exposure to mosquitoes:

- Use insect repellents frequently
- Stable horses at dusk and dawn when mosquitoes are most active
- Eliminate or minimize standing water on property
- Stock tanks or ponds with mosquito-feeding fish
- Remove organic debris and items in which standing water can collect



ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

www.equinediseasecc.org/disease-information
www.AAEP.org/guidelines
www.aphis.usda.gov

Talk to your veterinarian today about EEE/WEE. For more information on the PRESTIGE® line of EEE/WEE vaccines, visit www.PrestigeVaccines.com.

¹ AAEP Core Vaccination Guidelines (aaep.org)



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