**Eastern/Western Equine Encephalomyelitis (EEE/WEE)**

### 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

### Quick 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 year

### General Facts
- **Depression**
- **Moderate to high fever** (102.5-104.5°F)
- **Lack of appetite**
- **Change in behavior**
- **Facial paralysis and weakness of the tongue**
- **Muscle fasciculations (twitching)**
- **Head tilt, ear droop, difficulty swallowing**
- **Recumbency (inability to rise)**
- **Colic**
- **Death**

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

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

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

### 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

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**Additional Information**
- [www.equilnediseases.org](http://www.equilnediseases.org)
- [www.AAEP.org](http://www.AAEP.org)

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

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[1] AAEP Core Vaccination Guidelines (aaep.org)