

EQUINE HERPES VIRUS

SPECIES AFFECTED

Horses and other equine species

DESCRIPTION

Equine herpesvirus myeloencephalopathy (EHM) is another name for the neurologic disease associated with equine herpesvirus (EHV) infections. Neurological signs appear as a result of damage to blood vessels in the brain and spinal cord associated with EHV infection. Interference with the blood supply leads to tissue damage and a subsequent loss in normal function of areas in the brain and spinal cord.

To date, nine EHV-1s have been identified worldwide. Three of these—EHV-1, EHV-3, and EHV-4—pose the most serious health risks for domesticated horses and can have significant economic impacts on the U.S. equine industry.