

Spread the Word
 not the germs
 Protect your horse from getting sick

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Checklist – Are you doing these things to prevent sickness?

AT HOME:

- Vaccinate your horses – this is your first line of defence against viruses!
- Have signs to tell visitors where to go, where not to go and to identify sick horses
- Protocols – communicate with your stable mates and/or staff – what do you do and why?
- Clean hands! Use alcohol-based sanitizers – salt block holders work well to hold them!
- Clean clothes and boots/footwear – have boots that stay in the barn
- Clean tack and equipment – no sharing
- Monitor your horses – **DEPP: Drinking, Eating, Pooping, Peeing, – Temperatures too!**
- Separate new, returning or sick horses from other healthy horses and monitor
- Talk to your veterinarian, farrier and any other important staff about disease risk

AT OTHER FACILITIES:

- Clean trailers with your own broom and shovel
- Be selfish! No sharing and no touching
- Clean hands, clothes and boots!
- Clean tack, buckets and other equipment
- Clean stalls – use your own equipment and wash after use
- Disinfectant wipes for cleaning cross-ties – shorten them to prevent chewing
- Take routine temperatures to monitor for signs you can't see!
- Separate horses when returning home and monitor them – DEPP!

LOOK INSIDE AND FIND OUT HOW!



Learn to reduce the odds of sickness in your horses.

Calculate your biosecurity risk using our online calculator – www.EquineGuelph.ca/Tools/biosecurity.php
 Sign up for the Biosecurity short course – www.EquineGuelph/biosecurity.php

CLEANERS AND DISINFECTANTS FOR YOUR STABLE



SPECIALISTS IN CLEANERS AND DISINFECTANTS FOR YOUR STABLE
 AVAILABLE AT YOUR LOCAL FARM STORE



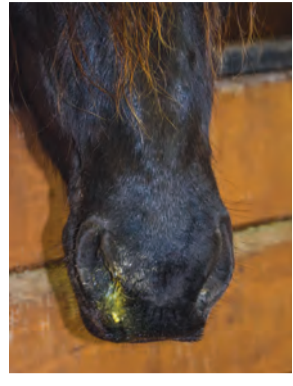
LOOK INSIDE & POST IN YOUR BARN →

Protect Your Horse from Getting Sick

At Home in Your Barn

1 Have a Plan

- Develop a biosecurity plan that is practical for your farm
- Dealing with a sick horse is costly and stressful, so remember, you may not be able to do everything, but do something because a little can go a long way in keeping your horse healthy



2 Focus on Prevention

- Be proactive and focus on what you can control to prevent a potential issue before it arises. Vaccines are your first line of defense
- Vaccines are useful for preventing diseases caused by viruses (like flu and equine herpes) and bacteria (like Strangles); talk to your vet about how they lower the odds of sickness and limit the severity of the sickness
- Antibiotics don't work for diseases caused by viruses; prevention is the best option

Remember, prevention is always cheaper in the long-run. Take action today!

3 Keep Hands, Clothes & Boots Clean!

- Wash your hands regularly with soap and water, and use a single-use towel to dry them
- Have several alcohol-based hand sanitizers available
- Watch where you're touching your horse – eyes, nose and mouth are where germs want to be, so don't give them a hand!
- **Designated boots for the barn is best – remember, they still need to be cleaned regularly**



4 Clean First and then Disinfect

- Clean surfaces, stalls, trailers and tack/equipment is key to infection control

3 steps to cleaning:

1. Clean – brush off all visible manure, soil and bedding (smooth surfaces are best – so patch knots and fill cracks with a polyurethane if you can)
2. Wash – with soap and water and let dry
3. Disinfect – apply disinfectant; ask your veterinarian

Visitors and Visiting

5 Be Vigilant on Route

- If possible, use your own trailer
- Try not to ship with horses from other farms
- Clean and disinfect the trailer
- Upon arrival, don't use the facility's shovel or brush to clean out the trailer



6 Be Selfish on the Road!

- From buckets, brooms and shovels to tack and equipment, "no sharing" should be your motto
- Think of your time at another facility like you're on a ride at the fair – keep your hands, feet and equipment to yourself at all times – it's about preventing the spread of germs!
- It's all about focusing on you and your horse, ask yourself:
 - Is there nose-to-nose contact?
 - How clean is your stall?
 - Are your hands and boots clean?
 - Can the crossies be shortened to prevent chewing?
 - Are they clean?
 - Can strangers touch my horse?
- Brush off dirt/manure, then disinfect tack, boots and equipment before leaving (sprays or wipes work well)
- When you get home, shower and put on clean clothes/shoes before going near other horses

7 Have Rules for Visitors

- Post a sign to indicate that visitors should check in
- Keep a visitor's log – if a disease outbreak occurs, it could help trace the problem
- Remember – infectious diseases can be transferred from one facility to another through the movement of people, horses or equipment

Managing Sick or New Horses – At Home and Away

8 Isolate New or Sick Horses

- Monitor the health of your horse



Think of **DEPP!** How are they: **D**rinking, **E**ating, **P**ooping, **P**eeing?

- Snotty nose or a cough? What is their temperature? – Taking daily temperatures helps you spot issues before you see any signs
- Give a sick horse its own stall as far away from other horses as possible and isolate your new horse for 2 weeks (recommended)
- Use separate tack and equipment – tip: use a piece of red duct tape to label all equipment
- Work with sick/new horses last and always wash up after handling them

**CAUTION
ISOLATION
STALL**

Place signs around so everyone knows

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