

Equine Core Vaccinations

Disease	Acquisition	Mortality Rate	Vaccination Schedule	Additional Boosters	Optimal Vaccination Period	Comments
Tetanus	Anaerobic bacteria present in soil, intestinal tract and feces of horses. Infection occurs when bacteria enters the body through a puncture wound, laceration, surgical incision, or the umbilical cord or placenta during the birthing process.	High	Annually	At the time of injury or surgery if it has been more than six months since the last tetanus shot.	Anytime during the year.	Contamination of superficial wounds may result in tetanus.
Eastern Equine Encephalomyelitis	Transmission primarily occurs from mosquitoes. A natural reservoir of the virus exists in populations of wild birds and rodents.	90%	Annually	Sometimes recommended at six month intervals in areas with year-round mosquito populations	Spring prior to mosquito season.	Vaccinated in combination with WEE
Western Equine Encephalomyelitis	Transmission of the virus primarily occurs from mosquitoes. A natural reservoir of the virus exists in populations of wild birds and rodents.	50%	Annually	Sometimes recommended at six month intervals in areas with year-round mosquito populations	Spring prior to mosquito season.	Vaccinated in combination with EEE
Venezuelan equine encephalomyelitis	Transmission of the virus primarily occurs from mosquitoes. A natural reservoir of the virus exists in populations of wild birds and rodents.	38 to 90%				Has not been diagnosed in the United States in 35 years.
West Nile Virus	Transmission of the virus primarily occurs from mosquitoes.	33%	Annually	Dependent upon horse's immune status and disease outbreaks	Spring prior to mosquito season	40% of horses that survive the disease have residual effects
Rabies	Virus transmitted from bite of infected mammal.	100% (With rare exceptions)	Annually	Immediate vaccination with observation following exposure to rabid animal.	Anytime during the year.	No laboratory test available to diagnose rabies in live animals