Deer that are exposed to the EHD virus, but do not die from the illness, may show growth interruptions on the hooves and sometimes peeling of hoof walls. Other external changes may include emaciation during the winter months and rarely antler malformations.

Recovered animals or animals that live for more than a month post infection may have cracked or sloughing hooves. Signs of infection occur in the same general area on each foot and all four feet are usually involved.