Could Your Horse Have Eastern Equine Encephalitis?

To protect all equidae, state law requires reporting of suspect and confirmed cases of EEE!

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE), also known as “sleeping sickness,” is a potentially fatal disease caused by a virus that attacks the nervous system. Horses, people, birds, and a variety of small mammals can contract this disease from a mosquito bite. The disease is not spread from horse to horse or from a horse to a human. An effective vaccine for horses is available and recommended to protect them from EEE.

Does Your horse have these signs?

Sawhorse Stance

- Weakness
- Lack of coordination
- Chewing movements
- Head pressing
- "Sawhorse" stance
- Circling
- Paddling motion of the limbs
- Convulsions or seizures
- Irritability and aggressiveness towards handlers
- Blindness
- Excitability or depression
- Abnormal sensitivity to light and sound

Contact your veterinarian with any suspected case of EEE, including the above signs. Your veterinarian is required by State law to report EEE to the Michigan Department of Agriculture and Rural Development (MDARD) by calling 517-241-2936 or 517-899-0098.