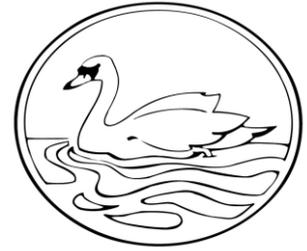


# Horse Flu Fact Sheet



## UN-VACCINATED Infected horses usually:

Been exposed within last few days  
Only 1-3 day incubation period  
High **temperature** (>40c / 105f)  
Frequent **Cough**  
Watery or snotty **nose**  
Off food  
Depressed.

**VERY RARELY** causes death unless very old, young or infirm.

**Contagious:** for up to **10 days** from onset of clinical signs (2 week disease cycle)

**Spread:** by **air**, food **bowls**, water **troughs**, **clothes** etc  
**Can** cross hedges / fences  
**Unlikely** to blow over separating fields and roads.

## **Longterm effects:**

Causes damage to the fine hairs and cells in the airway and lungs. This makes them more susceptible to sinus and pneumonia type infections in the following MONTHS!

## Diagnosis

**Swabs should be taken from the nose within the first 48Hrs**

So don't hesitate to contact us if worried

## VACCINATED exposed horses:

These can still catch and spread the disease in the same way as above **but** they are unlikely to show any noticeable clinical signs.

They are still able to transmit the disease onwards to other horses.

## Precautions:

Avoid contact with unknown or unvaccinated horses.  
Wear clean overalls between yards.

## Treatment of affected horses:

**Antibiotics** are NOT indicated for viruses but can be helpful in the prevention of secondary infections

**Bute** or similar for a few days will help to keep to the temperature down

**Vaccinations** are NOT recommended for horses that have been exposed to affected animals but will help if the disease is in the nearby area.

## Recovery:

Plenty of rest to allow lung tissue to recover  
May remain susceptible to lung infections for up to 100 days!  
Generally allow 1 week off for each day clinically poorly!

## Do I vaccinate my horse?

**YES! If you live within the vicinity of an outbreak we advise vaccinating all those NOT vaccinated within the previous 6 months**

Whilst the vaccines available are not perfect they do help reduce the symptoms the disease.