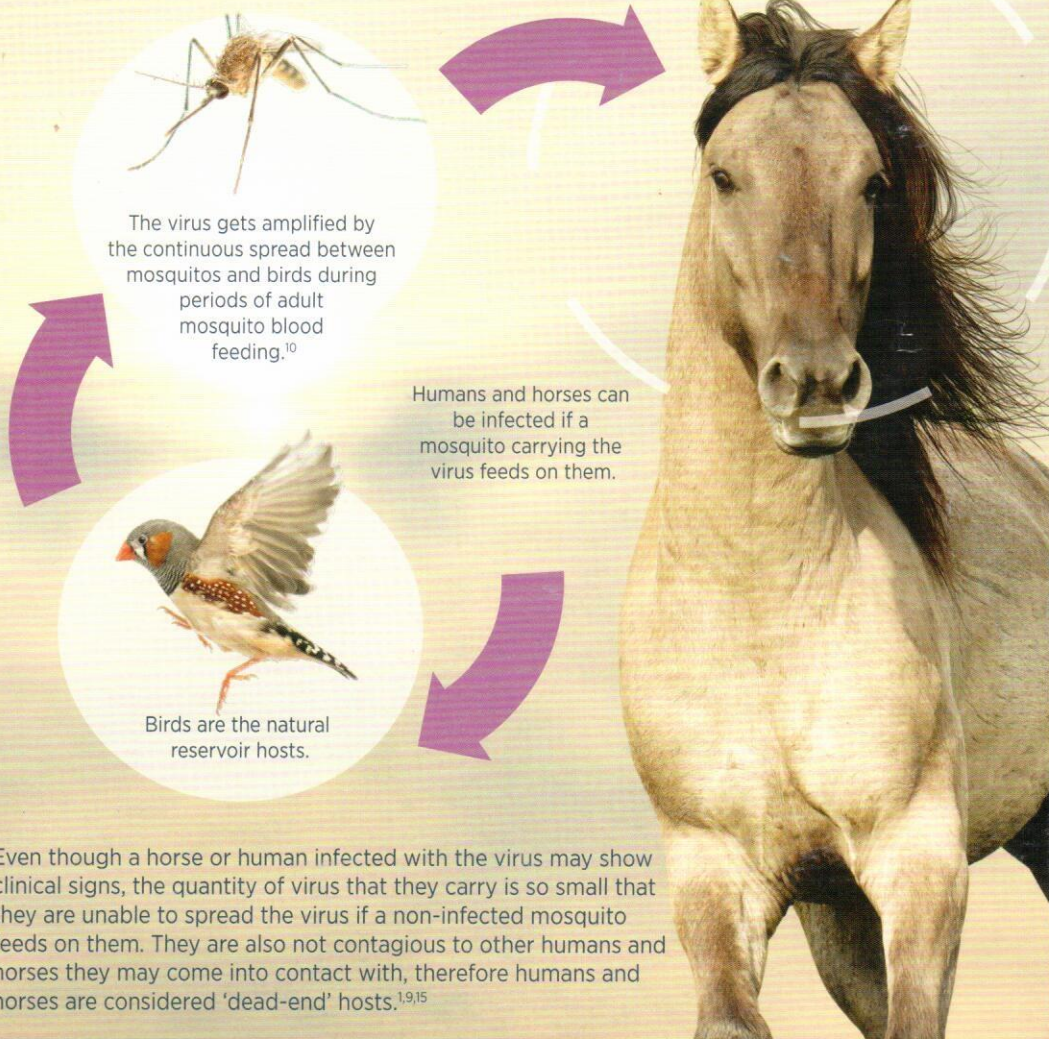


WEST NILE VIRUS INFORMATION UPDATE

zoetis.

West Nile virus (WNV) is a *Flavivirus* belonging to the Japanese encephalitis virus complex, and may cause outbreaks of febrile disease and encephalitis in horses and humans.^{6,15}

Spread The life-cycle of WNV is between mosquitos and birds.



DUVAXYN[®] WNV

Leading the way in protecting horses against West Nile virus

CLINICAL SIGNS

- Some of the clinical signs that infected humans can show are joint and muscle pain, rash, fever, mild flu like symptoms and neurological disease.^{7,9}
 - Not all horses infected with WNV will develop clinical signs, however if a horse does develop clinical signs **90 % will show neurologic disease.**^{6,9,15}
 - Horses can show weakness, loss of control of bodily movements which can progress to paralysis and inevitably recumbency and unable to stand up.¹⁵
 - Depression, muscle tremors, fever, blindness, twitching face and drooping lip can all also occur.¹⁵
- Up to 20 % of diseased horses can end up with residual effects such as weight loss, cranial nerve deficit, lethargy and loss of control of bodily movements that may never go away.¹**

Diagnosis

Due to the fact that some WNV infected horses can show no clinical signs, and that the clinical signs if they do present can look similar to some other diseases or syndromes (eg: rabies, botulism, herpes etc). Samples from the infected horse need to be sent to the laboratory in order to confirm the diagnosis.^{1,3}

Treatment

Unfortunately the only treatment that can be given is supportive care such as anti-inflammatories, intra-venous fluids and slings.^{1,15}

Prevention

There are 2 methods that can be used for prevention and control of the disease:

1. **Mosquito control:** repellants, control mosquito breeding sites - remove stagnant water, stable horses during peak periods of mosquito activity (dusk and dawn), no lights inside the stable, and fans are all examples of ways you can reduce exposure to mosquitos.^{1,15}
2. **Vaccination: is the most efficient prevention strategy.¹** Effective vaccination reduces frequency of disease and reduces the disease severity in horses that become infected with WNV.¹⁰



It is recommended that the booster be **given 4 weeks before** the beginning of the mosquito season.¹⁵

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15. Reed S.M., Bayly W.M., Sellon D.C. *Equine Internal Medicine*. Second edition 2009. p. 640 - 643.

For animal use only.
Duvaxyn[®] WNV, Reg. No.: G4071 (Act 36/1947). Each millilitre contains inactivated West Nile virus, strain VM - 2.
For full prescribing information refer to the package insert approved by the medicines regulatory authority.
Full product information available from Zoetis South Africa (Pty) Ltd., Co. Reg. No.: 2012/001825/07,
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