



The Highest Quality Health Care for Your Horses

Serving South East Louisiana

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Prairieville, Louisiana

Healthy horses... successful clients

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*Focusing on the health of our patients—Contributing to the enjoyment and success of our clients.*

- ◆ Preventive Care
- ◆ Equine Wellness Programs
- ◆ Dental Care
- ◆ Pre-Purchase Exams
- ◆ Sports Medicine
- ◆ Lameness Diagnosis & Treatment
- ◆ Diagnostic Technology
- ◆ Treatment Technology
- ◆ Surgery
- ◆ Reproductive Service
- ◆ Ambulatory Services
- ◆ Hospital Care
- ◆ Farrier Consultations



## Equine Vaccinations: - What are we vaccinating against?

### CORE VACCINATIONS:

#### Eastern Equine Encephalitis / Western Equine Encephalitis

- Both are neurological diseases that affect both horses and people.
- The disease is transmitted by mosquitoes and other blood sucking insects, and is not contagious between horses and humans.
- We are in an endemic area for these diseases; several cases of EEE have been reported this year.
- Clinical signs of the disease include fever, depression, recumbence, seizures, mental dullness, and death.
- EEE is 90% fatal, while WEE is 50% fatal.

**Vaccination Schedule: bi-annually**

#### Tetanus

- Tetanus causes a progressive, stiff paralysis that can be fatal if not treated.
- Tetanus is caused by the bacteria Clostridium tetani, whose spores are ubiquitous in the environment.
- The bacteria infect wounds (especially punctures and lacerations) and release a potent neurotoxin.
- Horses are extremely sensitive to this neurotoxin.

**Vaccination Schedule: bi-annually, or at the time of a wound or surgery**

#### West Nile Virus (WNV)

- WNV is another neurologic disease that affects both horses and people. It causes a similar neurologic disease as EEE and WEE.
- WNV is transmitted by mosquitoes and blood sucking insects. One third of the horses who get WNV will die, and approximately 40% of the surviving animals will have residual neurologic effects.
- It is not contagious.

**Vaccination Schedule: bi-annually**

## CORE VACCINATIONS - Cont.

### Rabies

- Rabies is a rare, but 100% fatal neurological disease in horses.
- However, it poses as a significant public health concern.
- Many people have often been exposed to the infected horse (including your family and your veterinarian) before the disease is ever diagnosed.

**Vaccination Schedule: annual booster**

## RISK-BASED VACCINATIONS

### Equine Herpes Virus/Rhinopneumonitis

- Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1 and EHV-4) causes a variety of clinical forms of disease including neurological disease, upper respiratory disease, abortion, and weak and stillborn foals.
- It is highly contagious from horse to horse via respiratory secretions and it can persist in the environment for two weeks.
- The vaccine does not protect against the neurologic form of the disease, however it can help to reduce the spreading between horses.

**Vaccination Schedule: bi-annually**

### Influenza

- Equine Influenza is endemic in the US and is one of the most common infectious diseases of the respiratory tract in horses.
- It's highly contagious between horses and is transmitted via respiratory secretions.
- Clinical signs include high fevers, depression, nasal discharge, and coughing.

**Vaccination Schedule: bi-annually is recommended, or more often if traveling or showing frequently**

### Strangles

- Strangles is caused by the bacteria *Streptococcus equi* spp. Equi.
- It causes high fever, mucopurulent nasal discharge, and swelling and abscessing of the lymph nodes of the head and neck.
- The disease is highly contagious from horse to horse and is persistent in the environment.
- A carrier state of the disease exists, and carrier animals can intermittently shed the bacteria.

**Vaccination Schedule: annual booster, recommended for horses that travel, show, or live in barns that have horses coming in and out on a regular basis**

### NOTE:

- EEE, WEE, Tetanus, and WNV comes in a combination vaccine
- Influenza and Rhino also comes in a combination vaccine (Flu/Rhino)