

Recommended equine vaccines across Canada by province/territory 2018

Province/Territory	Recommended as core vaccines					Recommended by location in the province/territory	Recommended based on management risk			
	Rabies	Tetanus	West Nile Virus	Eastern Equine Encephalitis	Western Equine Encephalitis	Potomac Horse Fever	Equine Herpesviruses	Equine Influenza	Strangles	Botulism
British Columbia	W		H				H-N+R	H	H	
Alberta	W		H				H-N,A		H	
Saskatchewan	W+O		H				H-N			
Manitoba	W+O		H				H-N,A		H	
Ontario	W+O		H	H		H	H-N,R,A	H	H	
Quebec	W+O	H	H	H		H	H-N+R	H	H	
New Brunswick	W		W						H	
Nova Scotia			W						H	H
Prince Edward Island			W						H	
Newfoundland and Labrador	W									
Nunuvut*	W+O									
Northwest Territories	W									
Yukon Territory										



Recommended vaccines by equine veterinarians within the province or territory

H

The disease has been reported in horses in the province in 2017-2018.

W,O

The disease has been reported in wildlife or other animals in the province in 2017-2018

- N** Neurological disease due to EHV-1
- R** Respiratory disease due to EHV-1/4
- A** Abortion due to EHV-1
- *** An equine veterinarian was not contacted

Notes:

- Practising equine veterinarians across Canada were consulted for this information, however, some veterinarians, depending on the risk of disease in their particular area, may recommend different combinations of these vaccines. It is best to consult with your own veterinarian regarding vaccine choice.
- Diseases that have occurred from 2017-2018 refer to those reported either to the federal or provincial government (rabies, West Nile virus, EEE, Anthrax), to the Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System (CAHSS), Ontario Animal Health Network, Réseau d'alerte et d'information zoonositaire (RAIZO), equine disease communication centre (EDCC), ProMED, news websites or by veterinary clinics. The diseases listed are underreported as often tests are not performed to identify the cause of disease or there is no formal way for equine veterinarians to report the disease in their province.
- The vaccines for rabies, tetanus, West Nile virus, Eastern and Western equine encephalitis are highly efficacious vaccines preventing disease in the majority of horses.
- Rabies is the only **fatal disease** on this chart that is transmissible from **horse to human**, however, it is not routinely recommended by all equine veterinarians in some provinces. This may be due to the management of horses in the practice or the low risk of wildlife contact with horses in the area. As well, very few animals were tested in some provinces/territories. The risk of rabies can change overtime so it is important to stay up-to-date on the whereabouts and risk factors related to the spread of this disease in your province. **No horses in Canada were reported infected with the rabies virus in 2017 or 2018 year-to-date.**
- Although tetanus has not been officially reported in any province or territory other than Quebec, it is recommended that horses receive the tetanus toxoid as part of their core vaccination schedule since the bacterium, *Clostridium tetani*, that causes the disease can survive in the soil for a lengthy period of time creating an ever-present risk to the horse.
- West Nile virus vaccination is required by some insurance agencies. Some veterinarians in the Maritimes may be considering WNV vaccination for 2019.
- The Potomac Horse Fever vaccine addresses one strain of the bacterium, *Neorickettsia risticii*, that causes this disease. In some provinces, like Ontario, multiple strains of the organism have been identified and therefore vaccination may not prevent disease caused by these other strains. Many practitioners still feel that the vaccine reduces the severity and length of disease however.
- There are presently no vaccines that protect a horse from developing neurological disease from EHV-1 infection. Vaccination will limit the amount of virus shed, however, reducing viral spread.
- Most practitioners across the country recommend the equine herpesvirus 1 and 4 and equine influenza vaccines as part of the core vaccination strategy for horses that will be comingling with other horses such as at competitions. The Strangles vaccine (*Streptococcus equi*) is also recommended based on risk in the area. Respiratory disease caused by viruses is thought to occur commonly across the country however testing is often not performed which may be why these diseases are under-reported. Equine rhinitis A virus is a common cause of viral respiratory disease in parts of the country, particularly affecting young competition horses, however there is no vaccine available in Canada.
- Botulism vaccine is recommended by veterinarians across the country whose clients feed haylage to their horses.
- Vaccines must be administered according to the manufacturer's direction and according to the appropriate schedule to be effective. Contact your veterinarian for the appropriate schedule for the recommended vaccines against diseases in your area.
- Owners of horses who travel to the U.S.A should consult the EDCC, CAHSS, [ArboNET](http://www.arboNET.org) and the CDC <https://www.cdc.gov/rabies/location/usa/surveillance/index.html> for information on diseases that may exist at their destination.

Sources of disease information:

Rabies- <http://www.inspection.gc.ca/animals/terrestrial-animals/diseases/reportable/rabies/rabies-in-canada/eng/1356156989919/1356157139999>

Tetanus – Réseau équin

West Nile Virus, Eastern Equine Encephalitis and Equine Herpesvirus -Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System

(<https://www.cahss.ca/surveillance/equine/>), Equine Disease Communication Center (<http://www.equinediseasecc.org/alerts/outbreaks>), Public Health Agency of Canada (<https://www.canada.ca/en/public-health/services/publications/diseases-conditions/west-nile-virus-surveillance/2018/september-30-october-6-week-40.html>), OMAFRA Equine Neurological Disease Surveillance (<http://www.omafra.gov.on.ca/english/livestock/horses/westnile.htm>)

Potomac Horse Fever - Ontario Animal Health Network – Equine Veterinary Report (<https://oahn.ca/networks/equine/>), – Réseau équin

Influenza -Ontario Animal Health Network – Equine Veterinary Report, – Réseau équin

Strangles - ProMED – International society for infectious disease (<https://www.promedmail.org/>), Canadian Animal Health Surveillance System - Equine <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/prince-edward-island/pei-horse-strangles-cases-1.4646183>, <http://www.yourlocaljournal.ca/single-post/2018/05/10/Strangles-disease-takes-hold-in-Vaudreuil-Soulanges>

Botulism - ProMED – International society for infectious disease