

# What to do if you suspect equine flu

Signs of Equine flu include:

- a dry harsh, hacking cough
- fever
- feeling lethargic and depressed
- loss of appetite

## What are the signs?

Call your vet as soon as possible if your horse displays any of these signs - virus shedding only lasts for a few days



## What will my vet do?

Your vet can sign up to our Surveillance Scheme. They will receive one of our sampling kits and benefit from FREE horse flu testing

Your vet will take a swab from your horse's nose and a blood sample. They will complete our submission form and ask you about vaccination history and whether your horse or others on the yard have recently travelled. Two weeks later your vet will come back to take a second blood sample

At the AHT the nasal swab is tested for presence of equine flu virus and the results are sent to the vet within 24h

## What will the AHT Diagnostics Lab do?

The first blood sample is stored until the second sample is received. The two samples are then tested side by side to look for an increase in equine flu antibodies



The lab will try to grow live virus from your horse's nasal swab. The flu virus will be compared to the strains currently recommended for equine flu vaccines.

## What will the AHT Research Lab do?

If the virus has mutated, global recommendations for equine flu vaccines will change. The vaccine manufacturers will be sent new viruses to update their products

Ultimately this means that the most effective and up-to-date vaccines are produced to protect your horse from equine flu. So if you suspect your horse has flu, make sure the vet comes early and submits samples to our Surveillance Scheme  
Help us, help them!



Visit [www.equiflunet.org.uk](http://www.equiflunet.org.uk) for more information

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