

# STRANGLES

Strangles is a highly contagious bacterial disease of the upper respiratory tract in equids. It is caused by *Streptococcus equi equi*. Strangles is one of the most common infectious diseases of horses worldwide. Transmission occurs via direct contact with infected horses or with contaminated equipment or clothing.



#### **CLINICAL SIGNS**

- Lethargy
- Anorexia
- Fever
- Nasal discharge



- Swollen lymph nodes with abscess formation and rupture
  - As lymph nodes swell, they can cause respiratory obstruction and difficulty swallowing

### TREATMENT AND PREVENTION

- Strangles is treated with supportive care, rest, and monitoring
- The best prevention strategy for Strangles is to minimize exposure to the bacteria
- Sick horses should be isolated

- New horses should ideally be quarantined upon arrival, especially if their history is unknown
- Wear gloves when handling sick horses
- There is a vaccination available

## **ACTIONS TO TAKE**

- Consult your local veterinarian about preventing
   Strangles in your herd or if you suspect your animals may be infected
- Veterinarians must report strangles to the State
   Veterinarian within 48 hours of first knowledge of the disease



#### **Contact Us:**

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