

May 17, 2011

Dear Alberta Veterinarians:

RE: Neurotropic Equine Herpes Virus -1 (nEHV-1)

A case of nEHV-1 with neurological symptoms has been confirmed in one Alberta horse that recently returned from Utah. The horse is in Southern Alberta, isolated, and is recovering from the disease.

Cases of nEHV-1 have also been reported in Washington State and Colorado. The confirmed cases have been traced to a National Cutting Horse Association event in Ogden, Utah, which was held April 30th - May 8th, 2011.

The presence or suspected presence of nEHV-1 is notifiable under the Alberta *Animal Health Act*. Alberta Animal Health professionals are reminded to contact the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian within 24 hours if they suspect or confirm the presence of nEHV-1. Reporting the presence or suspected presence of nEHV-1 will help to provide the province with the best information regarding the presence and severity of the virus in Alberta.

To contact the Office of the Chief Provincial Veterinarian, phone (780) 427-3448 between 8:15 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., or toll free at: 1-800-524-0051 after business hours.

Veterinarians are encouraged to discuss the symptoms of nEHV-1, as well as, biosecurity measures with their clients. An information bulletin on nEHV-1 from Alberta Agriculture and Rural Development will be distributed to the equine industry.

Sincerely,



Dr. Gerald Hauer,
Chief Provincial Veterinarian

