

Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)



Fact Sheet



Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) is a rare but serious disease that spreads through the bite of an infected mosquito.



Anyone can get EEE, but people who spend time outdoors are at the highest risk. EEE can also infect horses, birds, and other animals.

Signs and Symptoms



Fever and Chills



Weakness



Headache



Body and Muscle Pain



Inflammation of the Brain



Confusion



Neck Stiffness



Coma

Signs and symptoms usually start four to ten days after being bitten by an infected mosquito and last one to two weeks. It is possible that some people infected with EEE will not show any signs of illness. Mild signs and symptoms include fever and chills, weakness, and body and muscle pain.

EEE can cause swelling of the brain and can lead to more severe illness. Signs and symptoms of severe illness include fever, headache, neck stiffness, confusion, seizures, and coma. About a third of people with EEE die. People over the age of 50 and under the age of 15 are at greatest risk for severe illness.