

EEE: The Facts

Is there EEE in Maine?

Yes, Maine CDC identified the first human case of EEE in a Maine resident in 2014, and the first death from the virus in 2015. Research found animals or birds with evidence of EEE exposure in all 30 counties, showing a statewide risk for EEE.

How are people infected?

EEE virus is spread through the bite of an infected mosquito. You cannot get EEE from another person or a horse.

Who is at risk?

Anyone bitten by an infected mosquito can get EEE. The virus is usually spread between birds and mosquitoes in freshwater wetlands or boggy areas. People who live, work, or play near these areas are at greatest risk. Children and adults over 50 years old are also at higher risk for EEE.

What are the symptoms?

EEE begins with sudden fever, headache, chills, and vomiting. It may progress to confusion, seizures, and coma. One third of patients with EEE die. Many survivors have brain damage.

For more information:

Maine Center for Disease Control and Prevention



Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE)



EEE is a rare but serious viral disease that is spread by mosquitoes. EEE virus causes inflammation of the brain (encephalitis) in horses and humans.