



Tikrit University College of Veterinary Medicine

Vesicular Stomatitis

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Vesicular Stomatitis

Vesicular Stomatitis Virus

- RNA Vesiculovirus
 - Family Rhabdoviridae
 - Major serotypes
 - VSV-NJ and VSV-I
- Affects horses, cattle, swine, camelids, humans
 - Sheep and goats resistant
- Closely resembles exotic vesicular diseases including FMD

Epidemiology

Morbidity/ Mortality

- Morbidity
 - Range: 5 to 90%
 - Most animals seroconvert
- Mortality
 - Higher in adults
 - Death rare in cattle and horses

Transmission

- Vectors
 - Sandflies
 - Blackflies
 - Seasonal outbreaks
- Direct contact
 - Infected animals
 - Contaminated objects

Clinical Signs

- Incubation period
 - 3 to 5 days
- Fever and vesicles that resemble FMD
- Horses severely affected
 - Oral lesions
 - Drooling, chomping, mouth rubbing, lameness
 - Coronary band lesions
- Cattle, pigs
 - Vesicular lesions
 - Oral, mammary gland, coronary band, interdigital region
 - Usually isolated to one body area
 - Salivation, lameness
- Recover within 2 weeks

| | Foot & Mouth Disease | Vesicular Stomatitis | | | |
|------------------------------|---|---|--|--|--|
| Clinical Signs by Species | All vesicular diseases produce a fever with vesicles that progress to erosions in the mouth, nares, muzzle, teats, and feet | | | | |
| Cattle | Oral & hoof lesions, salivation, drooling, lameness, abortions, death in young animals, "panters"; Disease Indicators | Vesicles in oral cavity, mammary glands, coronary bands, interdigital space | | | |
| Pigs | Severe hoof lesions, hoof sloughing, snout vesicles, less severe oral lesions: Amplifying Hosts | Same as cattle | | | |
| Sheep & Goats | Mild signs if any; Maintenance Hosts | Rarely show signs | | | |
| Horses, Donkeys, Mules | Not affected | Most severe with oral and coronary band vesicles, drooling, rub mouths on objects, lameness | | | |

Post Mortem Lesions

- Gross lesions
 - Erosive, ulcerative lesions
 - Oral cavity, nostrils, teats,
- coronary band

- Histopathology
 - Degeneration of epithelial cells

| Differential Diagnosis for Vesicular Stomatitis Virus | | | | | | |
|---|--------|-------|-------|--------|--|--|
| | Cattle | Swine | Sheep | Horses | | |
| FMD | x | x | x | | | |
| Swine Vesicular Disease | | x | | | | |
| Vesicular Stomatitis Virus | x | x | x | x | | |
| Vesicular Exanthema of Swine | | x | | | | |
| Chemical burn | x | x | x | x | | |
| Thermal burn | x | x | x | x | | |
| Rinderpest | x | | | | | |
| IBR | x | | | | | |
| BVD | x | | | | | |
| Malignant Catarrhal Fever | x | | | | | |
| Bluetongue | x | | x | | | |
| Contagious Ecthyma | | | x | | | |
| Lip/Leg Ulceration | | | x | | | |
| Foot Rot | x | | x | | | |

Clinical Diagnosis

- Vesicular diseases are clinically indistinguishable!
- But, symptoms in horses are suggestive
 - Salivation and lameness
- VSV vs. FMD
 - VSV less contagious
 - VSV lesions generally found in one area of the body

Laboratory Diagnosis

- Virus isolation
- Viral antigen detection
 - Vesicular fluid or epithelium
 - ELISA, complement fixation, virus neutralization
- Antibody tests
 - Paired serum samples
 - ELISA, complement fixation, virus neutralization

Treatment

- No specific treatment available
- Supportive care
 - Fresh, clean water
 - Electrolytes if necessary
 - Soft feeds
- Antibiotics for secondary infection
- Good prognosis

• Production animals may suffer losses

Vaccination

- Vaccines used in some endemic regions
- Vaccines may be available during an outbreak
 - Efficacy is unknown

Prevention

- Do not buy from positive herds for 3 months post-infection
- Avoid grazing at peak insect feeding hours
- Segregation and isolation necessary for controlling spread
- Sanitation
- Insect control programs