



## EASTERN EQUINE ENCEPHALITIS (EEEV) FACT SHEET

### WHAT IS EEEV?

Eastern equine encephalitis (EEEV) is a rare illness in humans, and only a few cases are reported in the United States each year. Most cases occur in the Atlantic and Gulf Coast states.

### HOW DO YOU GET EEEV?

Infected mosquitoes spread the virus to people through bites.

### SYMPTOMS

- Symptoms usually begin 4 to 10 days after being bitten by an infected mosquito.
- It is possible that some people who become infected with EEEV may have no symptoms.
- Symptoms may be abrupt and include chills, fever, joint pain, and muscle pain.
- Symptoms in encephalitic patients are fever, headache, irritability, restlessness, drowsiness, loss of appetite, vomiting, diarrhea, bluish skin color, convulsions, and coma.

### TREATMENT

There is no vaccine to prevent or medicine to treat EEEV. Supportive treatment may be provided. Discuss treatment options with your doctor.

### PREVENTION

Reducing exposure to mosquitoes is the best defense against infection with EEEV and other mosquito-borne viruses:

- Dump standing water around your home once a week.
- Use insect repellent.
- Wear long-sleeved shirts and long pants.
- Use screens on windows and doors. Repair any holes.

### DGHD EFFORTS

Reports of suspected and confirmed cases of disease are made to the Delaware General Health District (DGHD). The DGHD investigates potential sources of illness, conducts surveillance for the spread of disease, and engages in community outreach and education. The DGHD regularly trap and test mosquito populations and fog areas where human disease is confirmed.