EQUINE HERPES VIRUS AND CAMELIDS

This information on the Equine Herpes Virus (EHV-1), is being posted by ICI as an informational and precautionary note. At this time, there are no known cases of EHV-1 in camelids. But if you do own camelids and equids, you should be aware of the possibility that camelids can contract the virus from equids. Familiarize yourself with clinical symptoms and signs to look for and be ready to contact your local veterinarian should you see any of these symptoms. In the interest of safety, you may want to disinfect any areas that have been exposed to horses. Dr. Rob Callan, DVM, Colorado State University suggest the following: “Herpesviruses in general are pretty susceptible to most detergents and disinfectants. Bleach will work, as well as disinfectants like chlorhexidine (Nolvasan) and povidone iodine (Betadine). Remember to first clean surfaces with a good soap or detergent to break through any superficial organic debris.”