



Directors: Stephen F. Glanvill, M.A., Vet.M.B., D.B.R., O.V.S., M.R.C.V.S.  
Simon D. Richards, B.V.Sc., O.V.S., M.R.C.V.S.  
Gary Jennings, B.Sc., B.Vet.Med., M.R.C.V.S.



## Rabbit Diseases

### Myxomatosis

Cause: Virus

- Symptoms: Puffy, fluid filled swellings around the head and face. Sleepy eyes, swollen lips, tiny swellings on the inside of the ear and puffy swellings around the anus and genitals. May stop eating and drinking.
- How it is spread: By blood sucking insects such as the rabbit flea and possible mosquitoes.
- Incubation period: 5-14 days.
- Treatment: Symptomatic treatment, depending on the severity, however, prognosis is poor.
- Prevention: Regular flea prevention – the virus can remain alive in the blood of hibernating fleas over the winter.
- Prevention: A Bi-Annual vaccination.

### Viral Hemorrhagic disease (VHD)

Cause: Virus

- Symptoms: Depression, lethargy and anorexia. In-coordination of limbs and head, high temperature, blue patches on lips. Constipation or diarrhoea. Collapse. Late stages sometimes convulsions and nose bleeds.
- How it is spread: VHD is very contagious. It can be spread by direct and indirect (clothing, shoes), contact and fleas.
- Incubation period: 1-2 days.
- Treatment: Many effected rabbits symptoms are not noticed, so do not survive.
- Prevention: An annual vaccination.



Hook Norton Veterinary Group LLP, registered in England and Wales under number OC356808  
(Registered Office) White Hills Surgery, Sibford Road, Hook Norton, Banbury, Oxon. OX15 5DG  
Tel: 01608 730085 (Farm, Equine & Accounts) 01608 730501 (Small Animal)  
The Spendlove Centre, Enstone Road, Charlbury, Oxford. OX7 3PQ. Tel: 01608 811250  
Heritage House, St Thomas Street, Deddington, Oxon. OX15 0SY. Tel: 01869 337732  
FAX NO: 01608 730439 VAT Reg. No. 349 3951 20  
[www.hooknortonvets.co.uk](http://www.hooknortonvets.co.uk)