



Clinical signs of strangles

These usually develop over a period of days/weeks

The typical incubation period is 3-14 days after exposure to *S. equi*.

Loss of appetite and subsequent weight loss

Thick, pus-like, nasal discharge

Present in 62% of cases. Horses with a thick, nasal discharge are 6 times more likely to have strangles than horses without them!

Enlarged lymph nodes of the head and neck

Enlargement results in abscessation and rupture. Horses with such abscesses are 50 times more likely to have strangles than horses without them!

Fever (up to 42°C)

Present in 72% of cases. This results in depression.

Coughing may sometimes be present

However, many cases in the UK are “atypical strangles” with more subtle or even no obvious clinical signs!

Approx. 50% of long-term carriers of strangles had no initial clinical signs, for example, in a recent study

