

# Pathogenes Testing Options



The various tests we offer help you manage your horse with neurological dysfunction. Most likely EPM is on your differential list, remember, there are no “EPM tests” because the disease *syndrome* is due to parasites and inflammation. The tests below are useful to locate the cause of the signs, parasites or inflammation. If you are unsure what to submit after reviewing the following chart, select SAG 1, 5, 6 and CRP. We hold your sample for 6 months and additional tests can be ordered. You may call us for our suggestions.

TYPE OF TEST	WHAT WE MEASURE	WHEN TO USE THE TEST	HOW TO USE THE RESULT
<b>SAG 1, 5, 6</b>	Antibody defines the serotype of <i>S. neurona</i>	1) Suspect EPM 2) After treatment depending on history of infections	Antibody against <i>S. neurona</i> supports a diagnosis of sarcocystosis. After treatment the antibodies drop in a naive horse and rise in an “experienced” horse thus, the time to seroconvert (turn negative) depends on the immune background of the animal.
<b>CRP</b>	C-reactive protein concentration	Acute phase protein that detects inflammation due to infection and to monitor sub-clinical inflammation in polyneuritis equi	Monitor inflammation that is sensitive to levamisole HCl treatment. The inciting cause must be remedied for the value to fall. An elevated value in a horse with chronic, relapsing horse should trigger running MPP. Horses with <i>T. gondii</i> have elevated CRP levels, there are no treatments for .
<b>LYME SCREEN</b>	Antibody against <i>Borrelia</i>	Use this test to rule in or out Lyme Disease	A negative value rules out Lyme. A positive value at 20 does not rule Lyme out, but acute infection is less likely due to <i>Borrelia</i> . A positive value at 40 indicates Lyme should be on the differential. Call for advice on confirmatory testing.
<b>MPP</b>	Antibody against peptide of myelin protein	Chronic, relapsing and unresponsive cases that show polyneuritis or encephalomyelitis. Sidewinding in older horses.	A positive MPP test indicates there is an autoimmune component to the disease. In a levamisole responsive case it may be prudent to treat the autoimmune reaction and monitor the MPP. The MPP may indicate longer duration autoimmune disease.
<b>MP2</b>	Antibody to myelin MP2 protein	Chronic, relapsing and unresponsive cases that show polyneuritis or encephalomyelitis. Sidewinding older horses.	A positive MPP test indicates there is an autoimmune component to the disease. The MP2 can indicate earlier disease than the MPP test.
<b>S. FAYERI TOXIN</b>	Antibody to <i>Sarcocystis</i> toxin	Rule in or out toxin associated with sarcocyst stages that can cause ataxia and gut inflammation.	A positive test indicates the horse has <i>S. fayeri</i> sarcocysts. Use this test when CRP remains high, with or without clinical signs, after treatment.
<b>Neospora</b>	Antibody to Neospora	Detects antibody against <i>Neospora hughesi</i> .	Antibody against <i>N hughesi</i> supports a diagnosis of infection. After treatment the antibodies drop in a naive horse and rise in an “experienced” horse thus, the time to seroconvert (turn negative) depends on the immune background of the animal.