

# What swine diseases are zoonotic?

## ERYSIPELAS

**Cause of disease:** Erysipelothrix rhusiopathiae

**Clinical signs in swine:** fever, anorexia, red diamond shaped patches, lameness

**Clinical signs in humans:** Erysipeloid—painful, red/purple swelling on the hands. Lesions are usually confined to the hands and finger. Severe cases can progress to systemic infection with endocarditis.

**Route of Transmission:** Direct contact (usually enters through cuts in the skin)



## STREPTOCOCCUS SUI

**Cause of disease:** Streptococcus suis

**Clinical signs in swine:** depression, tremors, incoordination, blindness, paralysis, and convulsions or paddling of the legs

**Clinical signs in humans:** meningitis, sepsis, endocarditis, arthritis, hearing loss, and skin lesions

**Routes of Transmission:** direct contact



## GASTROINTESTINAL INFECTIONS

**Cause of disease:** Salmonella spp., Escherichia coli, Campylobacter spp., Yersinia enterocolitica, Cryptosporidium parvum, Giardia intestinalis, Balantidium coli.

**Clinical signs in swine:** diarrhea

**Clinical Signs in humans:** nausea, vomiting, abdominal pain, and diarrhea

**Route of Transmission:** Fecal-oral



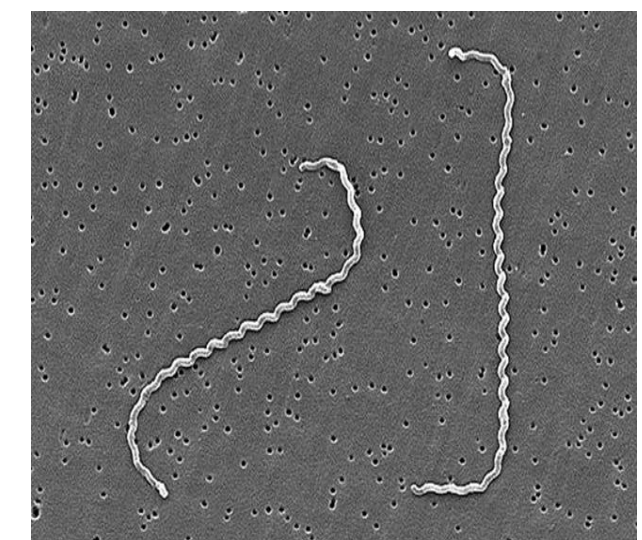
## LEPTOSPIROSIS

**Cause of disease:** Leptospira spp.

**Clinical signs in swine:** from unapparent to decreased weight gain, anorexia, abortion, still births, fever, diarrhea, and generalized neurological signs.

**Clinical signs in humans:** fever, chills, headache, muscle ache, vomiting, liver and kidney failure

**Routes of Transmission:** direct, Aerosol, Fomites, Ingestion (spread in urine)



## INFLUENZA

**Cause of disease:** Influenza A virus

**Clinical signs in swine:** fever, depression, coughing (barking), discharge from nose or eyes, sneezing, difficulty breathing, anorexia

**Clinical signs in humans:** fever, lethargy, lack of appetite, coughing, nausea, vomiting, and diarrhea

**Routes of transmission:** Direct, Aerosol, Fomites



## RINGWORM

**Cause of disease:** Dermatophytosis

**Clinical signs in swine:** crusty, dark, hairless patches; common on the skin around the head and neck; thorax, flank, behind the ears, on the legs

**Clinical signs in humans:** local itching, reddish skin, and hairless at the point of contact

**Routes of Transmission:** Direct and Fomites



# How to prevent disease transmission when showing?

Exhibition swine are more frequently exposed to disease because they encounter other pigs and people at shows. The following measures should be considered to keep you and your pig healthy before, during, and after the show.

### Before the swine show:

- Develop and implement applicable biosecurity and swine health practices at home.
- Clean and disinfect facilities, feeders, and chore boots.
- Limit pig's exposure to people and traffic.
- Control exposure to wildlife, birds, and other pests.
- Take only clean and disinfected equipment to the show.
- Don't show a pig or pen-mates for at least seven days after returning from an exhibition.
- Never bring an unhealthy animal to exhibition. Sick pigs and sick people need to stay home so they do not risk infecting other pigs or people.
- Evaluate your pig's health daily. Ask these questions:
  - Is your pig eating normally?
  - Is your pig coughing or having trouble breathing?
  - Does your pig have a fever?
  - Does it appear depressed?
  - Does your pig have loose stool?
  - Seek veterinary assistance if a pig becomes sick.
- Discuss the use of vaccines with a veterinarian and check the exhibition rules for any requirements. Swine vaccinated for infectious diseases may be less likely to become ill, and if they become sick, they may be contagious for a shorter time.

### After the swine show:

- Consult a health care provider and public health official as soon as possible if exhibitors or family members develop illness.
- Inform the health care provider of close contact with swine and/or exhibition attendance.
- Ill people should avoid all contact with swine until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medications.
- Isolate and observe animals daily for illness after returning home and before allowing contact with other animals. The isolation/observation period for clinical signs of disease should be no fewer than 7 days.
- Clean and disinfect equipment, clothing, shoes, and vehicles/trailers that were at the exhibition.
- Consult a veterinarian if pigs become ill.

### During the swine show:

- Continue to evaluate your pig's health daily.
  - Is your pig eating normally?
  - Is your pig coughing or having trouble breathing?
  - Does your pig have a fever?
  - Does it appear depressed?
  - Does your pig have loose stool?
- Report any illness to the designated exhibition veterinarian or the appropriate exhibition staff so the pig can be evaluated.
- Use precautions when caring for sick pigs to minimize the opportunity for disease transmission to other swine or people.
- If you feel ill, see your doctor and tell them you have had pig exposure. People with illness should stay away from pigs until they are fever-free for at least 24 hours without the use of fever-reducing medication.
- Do not borrow or share equipment with other exhibitors.
- Keep your area and equipment clean.



Wash boots in between visiting different premises.

- Wash your hands after contact with pigs and equipment.
- No eating or drinking in the animal areas.
- Do not sleep in animal areas.

*Diseases commonly spread between swine and some also spread between swine and humans. As a responsible livestock owner, you can take measures to reduce the spread of pig-to-pig and pig-to-human disease transmission.*