

# SENECAVIRUS A

**Senecavirus A (SVA), also known as Seneca Valley Virus, is a non-enveloped single-stranded RNA virus of the family Picornaviridae.**

Since 2015, SVA cases have increased in Canada, the United States, Brazil, and China.

Clinical signs related to SVA cannot be distinguished from economically devastating vesicular foreign animal diseases like foot and mouth disease (FMD) without laboratory testing. Shipment of pigs to any slaughter plant exhibiting clinical signs of disease can result in the temporary shutdown of processing at packing plants and the inability to export pigs to countries like the United States.

SVA is only infectious to swine and poses no disease or food safety threat to humans.



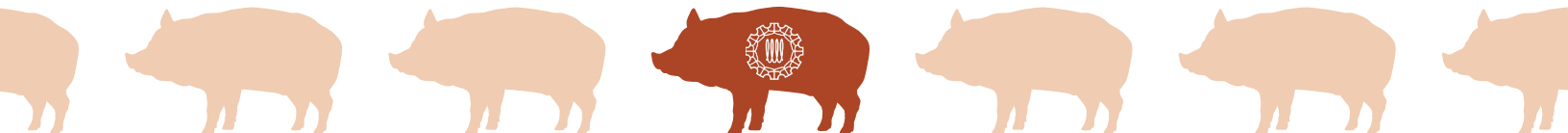
## CLINICAL SIGNS DIFFER BASED ON THE AGE OF THE PIG

### PIGLETS

- ⚠ Increase in mortality in litters less than 7 days old
- ⚠ Fever and lethargy
- ⚠ Diarrhea
- ⚠ Sudden and short-term increase in morbidity and mortality; estimates are 30-70%
- ⚠ Clinical signs usually resolve quickly (7-10 days) and most piglets completely recover

### BREEDING / FINISHING

- ⚠ Vesicles (intact or ruptured) on the snout, mouth, feet around the coronary band or teats
- ⚠ Ulcerative lesions on the feet or nail bed
- ⚠ Acute lameness that quickly spreads to other pigs
- ⚠ Lethargy
- ⚠ Decreased appetite and minimal feed intake
- ⚠ Loose foot pads which may lead to loss of hooves



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## TRANSMISSION

Transmission routes for SVA are not well understood, and both direct and indirect transmission likely play a role.

FMD, another picornavirus, is known to spread readily by direct contact with infected pigs, fomites, and/or exposure to aerosolized virus. While not entirely confirmed, it is likely that SVA is transmitted in a similar way. Stress, particularly during transport, is also seen to be a factor in the spread of SVA.

Direct transmission of SVA can occur through direct contact with ruptured lesions, infected manure, cuts, or abrasions. Active infection can last approximately 7 days and the clinical signs of the disease may persist from anywhere between 2 to 14 days. Viral shedding can last upwards of 28 days.

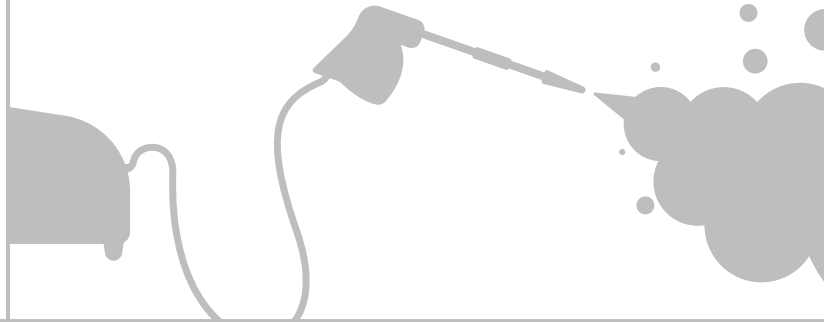
Indirect transmission can occur through contaminated clothing/footwear, pig handling equipment, livestock trailers, and/or deadstock removal equipment. The best defence against indirect transmission is through the use of common industry biosecurity practices.

## TREATMENT & ELIMINATION

There are no treatment options, including vaccination, available for SVA.

Decontamination of infected surfaces is essential to the elimination of SVA. Disinfectants that have been found effective against SVA are accelerated hydrogen peroxide® as well as Virkon®. Be sure to follow all label directions for concentration and contact time.

At 25°C, bleach (5.25%, 1:20 dilution) is also highly effective against SVA on aluminum, rubber, plastic, stainless steel, and cured cement after a 10 to 15 minute contact time.



## IF YOU SPOT LESIONS ON THE NOSE AND FEET



*\*Photos Courtesy of Dr. Paisley Canning, Swine Medicine Education Center*



Immediately contact your herd veterinarian



Do not ship pigs



Prepare records of all movements (pigs, people, feed trucks, deadstock trailers etc.) 30 days prior to and immediately surrounding the onset of clinical signs



Contact Manitoba Pork at [info@manitobapork.com](mailto:info@manitobapork.com) or 204-237-7447