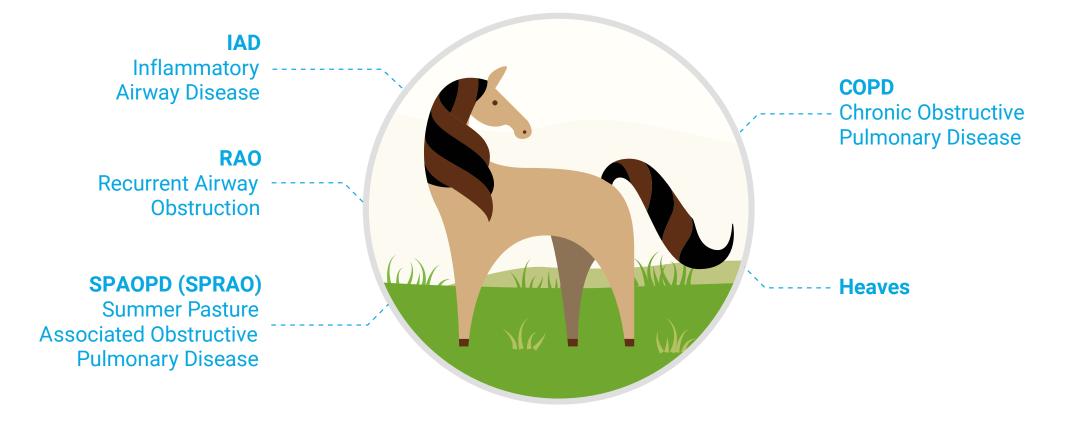


Equine asthma syndrome is an all-encompassing umbrella term to describe all chronic non-infectious inflammatory diseases affecting the lower airway in horses. The term was introduced in a 2016 Consensus Statement by the American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine, and replaces all previous terms such as:



WHAT is Equine Asthma Syndrome?



Asthma is defined as a chronic inflammatory disease of the lower airway.

Equine asthma is a heterogenous disease, meaning it has numerous triggering factors and varied pathophysiology. It is characterized by lower airway inflammation, varying degrees of airway obstruction, airway hyperreactivity and accompanying clinical signs.



	Mild to moderate equine asthma	Severe equine asthma
Former names	• IAD	 RAO SPAOPD COPD Heaves
Age of onset	 Typically younger horses (sport and racehorses), but all ages can be affected. 	 Typically horses >7 years old.
Recurrence	 May completely resolve with or without treatment. Low risk of recurrence. 	 Recurrent and progressive. Incurable, but clinical signs can be controlled with lifelong management.
Prevalence	 Estimated at 80% in racehorses.¹ Estimated at 20% in sport horses.² 	 Estimated at 11–17%.^{3,4,5,6} Estimated at 5% for summer- pasture associated equine asthma.^{3,4,5,6}



	Mild to moderate equine asthma	Severe equine asthma
Former names	• IAD	 RAO SPAOPD COPD Summer-pasture associated equine asthma
Age of onset	 Typically younger horses (sport and racehorses), but all ages can be affected. 	(formely SPAOPD) is a subset of severe equine asthma reported in horses maintained in pasture during summers in the northern hemishere – mainly the south-eastern United States and in Europe (predominately in the united kingdom).
Recurrence	 May completely resolve with or without treatment. Low risk of recurrence. 	Summer-pasture associated equine asthma is characterized by seasonality of clinical signs, which typically start in June and worsen until reaching a peak in July or August. Disease exacerbations tend to occur during hot and humid weather conditions.
Prevalence	 Mild to moderate equine asthma is the second most common cause of poor performance in racehorses. The high prevalence is related to: 1. Common management practices in racing barns 2. Greater likelihood of detection due to frequent and intensive screening⁷ 	 Estimated at 11–17%.^{3,4,5,6} Estimated at 5% for summer- pasture associated equine asthma.^{3,4,5,6}