Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE) virus is spread to people and some animals by infected mosquitoes. **Although rare, it can cause a severe brain infection called Eastern Equine Encephalitis (EEE).**

**Who is at risk?**

EEE is very rare.

Children and people age 50+ are most at risk.

Anyone bitten by an infected mosquito could get EEE virus, but that does not mean they will develop EEE. Most people with EEE virus do not get sick. Some develop a mild illness that does not affect the brain. Only a small percentage (less than 5%) of people bitten by an infected mosquito get EEE. Unfortunately, about 30% of those who develop EEE die. Children and people over age 50 are most at risk for developing EEE following infection.

**How can I stop EEE?**

Avoid mosquito bites.

There is no pill or vaccine to prevent EEE in humans.

- Use an EPA-approved insect repellent such as DEET or picaridin
- Wear long sleeves, pants and shoes that cover the feet when outdoors
- Dump standing water & make sure window screens are free of holes
- If in an area where EEE was found, limit time outdoors at & after dusk*

**What are the signs of EEE?**

Symptoms develop 4-10 days after infection with the EEE virus.

Signs of EEE include sudden onset of fever, chills, and body & joint aches, which can progress to headache, disorientation, tremors, seizures and paralysis. There is no specific treatment for EEE.

*As of Sept. 24, 2019, EEE is not currently detected in Ingham County. For a list of affected counties in Michigan, visit michigan.gov/emergingdiseases and click on EEE to access a weekly summary.