



LWAS Animal Care Sheets

What is e. Cuniculi?

E. Cuniculi is a protozoal infection that effects large portions of wild and domesticated **Rabbits**. It is spread through contact with infected urine.

Can I catch e. Cuniculi from my rabbit?

Most people are not susceptible to the protozoal infection, however there have been instances of severely immunocompromised people being affected.

What about my other pets?

E. cuniculi doesn't usually affect other species besides rabbits but some other mammals have been known to show antibodies to it, so to be safe, any immunocompromised mammal should avoid exposure to e. Cuniculi.

What does it mean if my rabbit is e. Cuniculi positive?

The test for e. Cuniculi just shows if the pet has antibodies to the protozoa, so a positive test doesn't always mean the pet will be affected. Many rabbits who test positive never show symptoms.

Symptoms of e. Cuniculi usually present in neurological symptoms, head tilts, cataracts, and kidney issues. Anti-parasitic drugs from the vet may be able to alleviate symptoms and allow the rabbit to live a long, happy life.

How common is e. Cuniculi in rabbits?

E. Cuniculi is pretty common in Illinois lately and our vet is seeing about 50% of rabbits test positive, especially outdoor rabbits.

How can I help my e. Cuniculi positive rabbit thrive?

1. Low Stress Lifestyle

Symptoms are worsened by stress so it is important to keep e.Cun+ rabbits happy and stress-free.

1. Good Diet and Husbandry

Keeping up with a good, healthy diet, a clean environment and a happy lifestyle will help any rabbit thrive, especially those who are e.Cun+

1. Regular Health checks

A yearly exam, bloodwork and fecal with an exotics vet will help ensure that you catch any issues before they become serious.