

Coccidiosis

Causal agent: *Eimeria* protozoa

Incubation time: 4-8 days

Infection route:

Ingestion of feed, water, litter, or soil infected with sporulated coccidial oocysts

Clinical signs:

- Dehydration
- Ruffled feathers
- Anemia
- Listlessness, weakness
- Retraction of head and neck
- Drop in egg production
- Muroid or bloody diarrhea (in more pathogenic disease)



*Ruffled feathers on bird ill with coccidiosis
(<http://www.poultrydvm.com/condition/coccidiosis>)*

Prevention and control:

- Anticoccidial compounds in feed
- Immunization with commercial coccidiosis vaccines
- Moderate natural exposure to develop immunity to the specific coccidial species in the environment

Treatment:

- Vitamin A in feed or water may reduce mortality.
- Vitamin K in feed or water may speed up recovery.

Infectious Coryza

Causal agent: *Avibacterium paragallinarum* bacteria

Incubation time: 2-3 days

Infection route:

- Inhalation of bacteria in the air
- Ingestion of contaminated feed or water
- Transmission by contaminated fomites
- *Recovered birds are often carriers.*

Clinical signs:

- Conjunctivitis
- Oculonasal discharge
- Swelling of infraorbital sinuses
- Edema of the face



Scab-like lesion on infected laying hen

- Respiratory noises
- Reduced feed consumption
- Drop in egg production
- Reduced growth
- High morbidity

Prevention and control:

- Vaccination with commercial bacterins (protects only for the serotype in the vaccine)
- Depopulate to remove all infected carrier birds
- Leave area vacant for 2-3 weeks after thorough cleaning and disinfection.

Treatment:

- To alleviate severity, antibiotics in feed or drinking water can be used.
- Birds respond to treatment if treatment is administered correctly.