

Myxomatosis

Unfortunately, Easter is an awful time of year for rabbits, as this is commonly when we see Myxomatosis. This disease is painful, fatal and without a cure. It kills over 50% of wild and domesticated rabbits.

Myxo was introduced to Australia in 1950 to help control the population of wild rabbits and hares. The virus causes swelling of the eyes and ears, tumours, fever, fatigue, and death. It is contracted through contact with an infected rabbit, but primarily spread via

mosquitoes or fleas who have fed on an infected rabbit.

If you think your rabbit has contracted Myxomatosis, we urge you to have a vet see them immediately. Prevention is the only option, therefore we recommend using the following tips:

How to stop Myxomatosis:

- **Monthly flea prevention:**

Revolution is a safe and effective prevention medication to use against fleas. Ask us which size would be best for your rabbit.

- **Mosquito proof the hutch:**

Mozzie proof netting is a *must* if you have an outdoor rabbit, to

prevent them from biting and infecting your bunny. This can be purchased from local hardware stores.

- **Bring them inside:**

At dusk and dawn, when mosquitoes are the worst, bring your bunny inside, just to be sure.

