**Classic case:** LIMP, flaccid, weak, down animal

**Presentation:**
- History of dead livestock, Recent change in feedstuffs
  - Poor to absent reflexes
- Short strided gait
- Progressive flaccid tetraparesis
- Cranial nerve deficits

**DDX:**
- Dog – Polyradiculoneuritis, tick paralysis
- Horse - Equine degenerative myelopathy
- Cattle- Milk fever

**Test of choice:** Definitive diagnosis is difficult

**Rx of choice:**
- ABX for wound botulism controversial -may release more toxin from killed bacteria
  - AVOID procaine penicillin, tetracyclines, aminoglycosides-↑effects on neuromusc blockade
  - Nursing care

**Pearls:** Usually herd outbreaks in cattle, but more often individual cases in horses, dogs, cats
  - 3 forms of toxicity
    - Ingested toxin
    - <span style='color: green'>Toxicoinfectious</span> botulism
      - **Shaker foal** - 1-3 mos old, repeated episodes of trembling
      - *Cl botulinum* produces toxin in foal’s small intestine
    - Wound botulism - *Cl botulinum* grows and produces toxin from within a wound

Eight types of botulinum toxin
- Dogs and cats usually affected by botulinum toxin C
- Horses - usually botulinum toxins B and C; Cattle - usually botulinum toxins C and D
- Poultry and waterfowl usually type C

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**Zuku Review FlashNotes™**

**Classic Question(s)**

Name one principal disease on your DDX list for a cow with suspected botulism. A dog? A horse?

What are three antibiotics to avoid in treatment of botulism?

What type(s) of botulinum toxin most often affects dogs? cats? horses? cattle? poultry and waterfowl?