



## **ABOUT**

Gumboro disease is a highly infectious disease that affects young chickens, turkeys and ducks. The name Gumboro stems from the area it was first recognised, Gumboro district, Delaware, USA. The disease is caused by the infectious bursal disease virus (IBDV), which is a member of the Birnavirus genus. The virus destroys the lymph cells within the [cloacal bursa \(of fabricus\)](#), tonsils and spleen. The disease normally affects chickens up to six weeks and the onset can be sudden. The virus is excreted from infected birds for 10–14 days and is highly infectious. There are a range of vectors including wild birds, vermin and humans. Disease severity can depend on virus [virulence](#), levels of maternally derived antibody (MDA), age and breed.

## **SIGNS**

- Ruffled feathers.
- Poor appetite.
- Huddling.
- Vent pecking.
- Depression.

## **TREATMENT**

- All visitors should be kept out of the buildings, which should be shuttered.
- A disinfectant should be sprayed at an appropriate dosage on the bedding, litter, and other places in close proximity to the birds.
- After that, the litter should be removed from the building and burned or buried to avoid interaction with chickens or other livestock.

- Portable equipment and fittings should be treated the same way, ideally within the home, before being carried outside and aerated.
- A detergent disinfectant is applied to the flooring and lower portions of the walls.
- After that, a disinfectant with a broad range of action, capable of killing all microorganisms present, should be applied to the surfaces.
- Skimming the top few inches of soil surrounding a badly infested region may be beneficial.
- Foot dips should be supplied for staff and the approaches to the building should be disinfected.