

Clinical signs of African swine fever

Acute

- High fever (40.5-42°C)
- Depression, recumbency, dyspnoea, inappetence
- Erythema +/- cyanosis -tips of ears, tail, extremities, underside of chest and belly
- Haemorrhages due to vascular damage
- Reduced movement, huddling together
- Vomiting, diarrhoea (can be bloody), constipation
- Nasal and ocular discharge
- Abortion in pregnant sows
- Death usually occurs within 1-7 days after onset of clinical signs
- Death rates can approach 100% in domestic swine
- Survivors may carry the virus for several months, progressing to subacute or chronic stages

Chronic

- Clinical signs may be non-specific, variable
 - Weight loss, undulating fever, arthritis, joint swelling
- Hair may become long and dull
- Death may occur after several months of disease (during which virus is continually shed)



Pigs may appear visibly weak, huddling together for heat



Cyanosis of extremities e.g. ears



Pigs can suffer with constipation or with diarrhoea, which can contain blood



Areas of erythema -often well demarcated

Pictures courtesy of the European Union Reference Laboratory for African swine fever
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