

# MAD COW DISEASE

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# What is it?

- Mad cow disease, or bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE), is a transmissible, slowly progressive fatal disease affecting the central nervous system of adult cattle. It also causes spongy degeneration of the brain.



NORMAL PRION PROTEIN [PrP<sup>C</sup>]



DISEASE-CAUSING PRION [PrP<sup>Sc</sup>]

# Cow Statistics

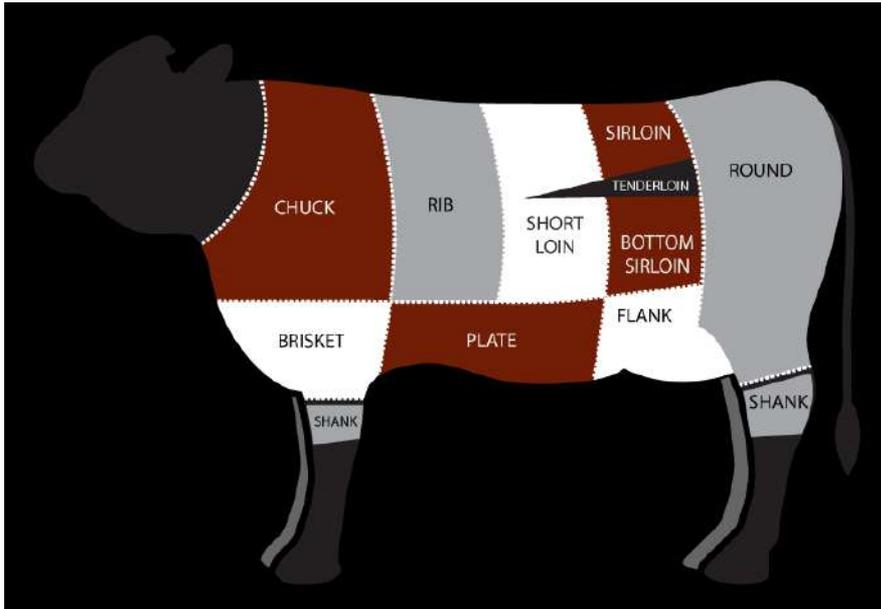
- In the United Kingdom, the country worst affected, more than 180,000 cattle have been infected and 4.4 million slaughtered during the eradication program.



- Cows with this disease are unable to stand

# Can Humans get this?

- The disease may be most easily transmitted to human beings by eating food contaminated with the brain, spinal cord or digestive tract of infected carcasses.



# Human Statistics

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- by June 2014 it had killed 177 people in the United Kingdom, and 52 elsewhere.

# Sources

- <http://www.webmd.com/brain/mad-cow-disease-basics#1>
- [http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bovine\\_spongiform\\_encephalopathy](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Bovine_spongiform_encephalopathy)
- [https://www.google.com/search?q=mad+cow+disease&espv=2&biw=1366&bih=667&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=OPxZVczfNYfToASyl4GgCQ&ved=0CAYQ\\_AUoAQ#tbm=isch&q=mad+cow+disease+prion&revid=1982353247](https://www.google.com/search?q=mad+cow+disease&espv=2&biw=1366&bih=667&source=lnms&tbm=isch&sa=X&ei=OPxZVczfNYfToASyl4GgCQ&ved=0CAYQ_AUoAQ#tbm=isch&q=mad+cow+disease+prion&revid=1982353247)
- [https://www.google.com/search?q=beef&espv=2&biw=1366&bih=667&tbm=isch&source=lnms&sa=X&ei=h2FbVZPPC5KqogTj8oDgCw&ved=0CAcQ\\_AUoAg#tbm=isch&q=beef+cow+parts&revid=2047421777&imgcr=k0Nq362t90uieM%253A%3BEIbIb-XrdXJNM%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.stubbsbbq.com%252Fwp-content%252Fuploads%252F2012%252F06%252Fcow-diagram2.png%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.stubbsbbq.com%252Fcow-cuts-101%252F%3B799%3B560](https://www.google.com/search?q=beef&espv=2&biw=1366&bih=667&tbm=isch&source=lnms&sa=X&ei=h2FbVZPPC5KqogTj8oDgCw&ved=0CAcQ_AUoAg#tbm=isch&q=beef+cow+parts&revid=2047421777&imgcr=k0Nq362t90uieM%253A%3BEIbIb-XrdXJNM%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.stubbsbbq.com%252Fwp-content%252Fuploads%252F2012%252F06%252Fcow-diagram2.png%3Bhttp%253A%252F%252Fwww.stubbsbbq.com%252Fcow-cuts-101%252F%3B799%3B560)