# Mad Cow Disease

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- Mad Cow disease is a incurable, fatal brain disease that affects cattle and sometimes goats and sheep
- It attacks the cow's nervous system and causes it to lose control of its ability to perform everyday tasks, like walking
- Its medical name is bovine spongiform encephalopathy (BSE)

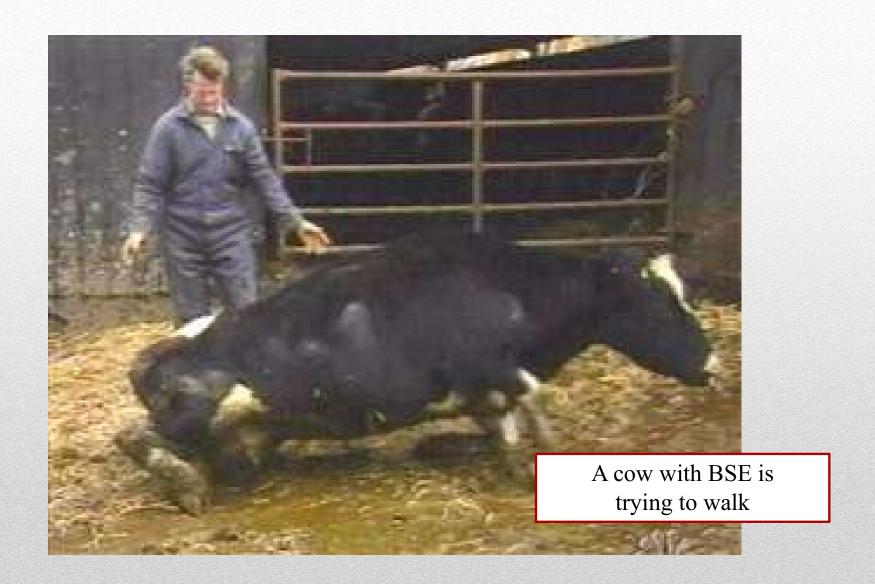
## What is it?

- People don't contract Mad Cow disease, but if they eat the meat from an affected cow they can develop vCJD
- vCJD is a type of protein that cause the brain cells to die, and the brain will eventually be spongy-like.
- People will slowly lose control on their physical and mental abilities

## Can People get it?

- When you buy meat, make sure it comes from a reliable source
- The Government (FDA) created a procedure to remove the parts of a cow that are at the highest risk of BSE (spinal chord and brain)
- Ranchers also test their cattle regularly for the disease

### **Prevention**



- <a href="http://kidshealth.org/teen/infections/bacterial viral/mad c">http://kidshealth.org/teen/infections/bacterial viral/mad c</a> ow disease.html#
- <a href="http://schoolworkhelper.net/mad-cow-disease-history-causes/">http://schoolworkhelper.net/mad-cow-disease-history-causes/</a>

### Sources