

Kennel Cough in Dogs

Kennel cough is a slightly misleading name. Whilst common in dogs that have been in kennels, it is perhaps equally common in dogs that have not. We have seen a number of cases of kennel cough throughout the year and would strongly advise dog owners to have their dogs vaccinated.

Also known as infectious tracheobronchitis, Kennel Cough is a highly infectious respiratory disease which circulates in the dog population all year round. Although a range of bugs can be involved, the two most likely triggers are both common and widespread: a bacterium called *Bordetella bronchiseptica* and canine parainfluenza virus.

Once exposed to infection, it takes 3-10 days before the symptoms are seen. There is usually a persistent honking cough and fever. Owners often think that their dogs have something stuck in their throat and dogs often cough up 'white foamy phlegm'. More rarely, serious cases can result in pneumonia and serious illness in puppies or those with a weaker constitution.

It is important not to exercise your dog if it has kennel cough in order to help prevent the spread of the disease. If you think that your dog may have kennel cough, please let us know when booking an appointment so that we can isolate your dog from others in the waiting room.

The kennel cough vaccine is slightly unusual as the vaccine is 'dropped' into the dog's nostrils. There is a discount on kennel cough vaccinations when administered at the same time as an annual booster vaccination. If you are a Pet Health Club member, you can now add a Kennel Cough vaccine to your annual plan for an additional £1.25* per month which is overall cheaper than vaccination for non PHC Members.

**price at time of publication – March 2017*



Resource
Centre

