

Kennel Cough

THE FACTS

- Kennel cough (infectious tracheobronchitis) is a generalized term for a contagious, upper-respiratory disease. Although dogs are vaccinated for Kennel Cough, there are different strains of the virus (just like a human's flu shot), so a vaccine is a good precaution, but not a guarantee.
- It is an airborne virus. Because the virus is airborne, normal cleaning and disinfecting of surfaces cannot eliminate it. Kennel cough occurs more commonly in puppies and young adult dogs.
- It is often caught at dog parks, grooming salons, kennels, shelters, vet offices, or any other place where dogs interact, even a walk around the neighborhood.
- Kennel cough will typically resolve on its own within 7 to 10 days. However, you may consult your veterinarian for treatment. **

SYMPTOMS

Kennel cough has an asymptomatic incubation period. Dogs may not show signs of sickness right away. Dogs with kennel cough are usually bright and alert and usually eat well; however, they have a dry, hacking cough or bouts of deep, harsh coughing often followed by gagging motions. The gagging sometimes produces foamy mucus. Most dogs with kennel cough do not have a fever or display lethargy.

SOLUTIONS

- If your dog has these symptoms and you seek treatment, antibiotics may be prescribed to prevent or cure a secondary infection. Antibiotics do not treat viruses.
- Keep dogs in a relatively warm environment and make sure they are rested to help prevent the development of complications.
- Prevent the spread of this disease by keeping your dog away from other dogs for at least two weeks after their last physical symptom.

WHAT YOU CAN EXPECT FROM US:

- Canine Kingdom has an air filtration and UV light system to help reduce the risk of spreading airborne viruses.
- All surfaces and crates are cleaned and sanitized daily with an anti-viral cleaning solution. Bowls, bedding, blankets and toys are washed and sanitized daily.
- Dogs with symptoms are not admitted to the facility until 2 weeks after their last physical symptom.
- Any dog showing physical symptoms is separated from the group until the owner can pick them up.

***If your dog has a fever, is less active than normal, has a decreased appetite, has discharge from the eyes or nose, or has difficulty breathing, a more serious problem may be present. ***