



WHAT YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT

Kennel Cough

Kennel Cough is a highly contagious respiratory infection in dogs. This illness is caused by a variety of bacteria that causes inflammation of the windpipe and lungs producing a mild to severe cough.

Treatment

Antibiotics are frequently prescribed to reduce the chances of developing a secondary bacterial infection and may shorten the length of time the dog coughs. Common antibiotics include: Clavamox, Doxycycline, and Trimethoprim Sulfonamide. Cough suppressants may be used to reduce coughing but their use should be limited. It is recommended that dogs with kennel cough wear a harness to avoid putting pressure on the trachea.



How does it spread?

Kennel Cough is common in dogs housed together in kennels, rescues, and shelters. This virus is airborne meaning it can spread through sneezing, coughing, and contact of surfaces. Environmental allergens such as pollen can increase the likelihood of a pet developing kennel cough.

Symptoms

- Dry, hacking cough (noticeable at night, in the morning, and after activity)
- Runny nose, sneezing, discharge from eyes, and mild loss of energy
- Serious symptoms include: change in appetite, lethargy, changes in breathing, and fever.



Upper Respiratory Infection

Feline Upper Respiratory Infection (URI) is a highly contagious respiratory infection in cats. This illness is caused by a variety of bacteria and viruses that causes sneezing, coughing, and discharge to leak from the eyes and nose.

Treatment

Antibiotics are frequently prescribed to reduce the chances of developing a secondary bacterial infection and may shorten the length of time the dog coughs. Common antibiotics include: Clavamox, and Doxycycline. Cats thought to have URI should see a veterinarian for treatment. It is important to avoid self-diagnosis as the cat may be infectious and require isolation.

Symptoms

- Sneezing, congestion, runny nose, cough, nasal discharge and limited appetite.

How does it spread?

Upper Respiratory is common in cats housed together in catteries, rescues, and shelters. 80% to 90% of all contagious URI problems are caused by Feline Calici Virus and Feline Herpes Virus. This virus can be transmitted from cat to cat through sneezing, coughing, grooming, or sharing food and water bowls. Stress can also play a role in causing outbreaks of URI and may experience recurrences when stressed. Flat-faced breeds have a predisposition to developing URI due to their facial structure.