

Can my dog be vaccinated to protect them against tracheobronchitis?

Yes! Vaccines against parainfluenza and adenovirus type 2 (in combination with other vaccines) are routinely used as part of an adult dog's yearly check up. Puppies are usually vaccinated for these in combination with distemper, hepatitis, and parvovirus in a series of immunisations. It is important to note that the vaccines that are used to prevent this viral disease are made from one strain of more than 100 different strains of the virus and therefore are not as effective against some strains as others.

A vaccine is available for the bordetella bacterium, which is the most common agent to cause canine cough. Dogs who are frequently boarded, visit doggie day care, compete in canine sports, or otherwise are exposed to large groups of dogs may benefit from the vaccine. At 'Pets Now Boarding' we require proof of annual vaccination. The vaccine is available in oral, intranasal, and injectable forms, and depending on the form, it is usually initially given in two doses two to four weeks apart, followed by a booster every 9 months to a year. Although most cases of canine cough are caused by bordetella, some are caused by other agents, including the bacteria bordetella bronchiseptica, canine adenovirus type 2, canine parainfluenza virus, canine respiratory coronavirus, and mycoplasmas. The vaccine may not prevent your dog from catching the disease but should lessen the symptoms. Your vet is in the best position to recommend a programme of preventative health care management depending on your pets needs.

Can't the kennel prevent my dog from catching tracheobronchitis?

Unfortunately, no ... no amount of supervision, sanitation, or personalised care can prevent a dog from "catching" an airborne virus. All that a good boarding kennel can do is to strongly recommend immunisation against tracheobronchitis, refuse to board any obviously sick dog, listen and watch for any signs of sickness, and make sure that any dog requiring veterinary attention receives it as quickly as possible.

(Strangely, the dog with parainfluenza alone may not appear ill, yet is contagious). Professional boarding kennels would

Justifiably expect owners to

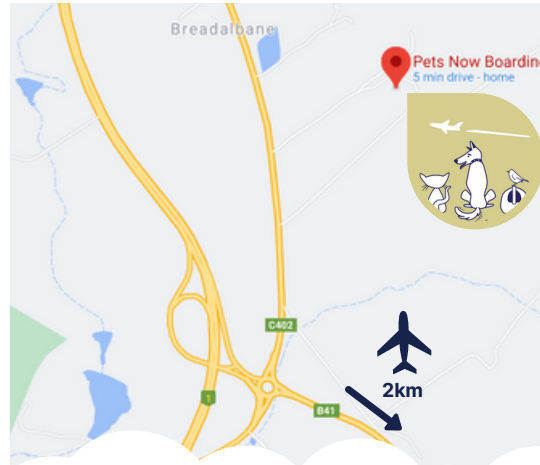
accept the financial responsibility for such care. Please contact us at Pets Now Boarding if your dog is diagnosed with canine cough.

Your PIAA member is devoted to your pet's well being.

OPENING TIMES

Monday - Friday 8:00am - 5:30pm
Saturday - Sunday 8:00am - 11:00am
3:00pm - 5:00pm

We are closed for pick up and drop off:
Christmas day & Boxing day
Easter weekend (Sat & Sun)



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CANINE COUGH

Customer Information Sheet

4.9/5 - Facebook
4.8/5 - Google

Pets Now Boarding put your dog's health and safety as our first priority. This information has been provided as a resource to help you better understand Canine Cough



In line with our PIAA membership, no dog can be admitted into Pets Now Boarding without a current CS vaccination.

We have strict daily cleaning processes and isolation areas for dogs that need to be quarantined to help manage illness outbreaks of any kind. However even with these strategies and monitoring, we are unable to control airborne viruses.

Should we ever have Canine Cough on our premises or hear of it in the area we will advise you when picking up your dog and let you know what to look for.

Just like humans, some dogs are more susceptible to illness than others. Being alert, understanding the signs and how to help your dog get through canine cough is the best course of action you can take to help your dog.

One of the key misconceptions facing boarding kennels is the dog disease tracheobronchitis, or canine cough. Often improperly referred to as 'kennel cough', dog owners should be aware of some of the facts around this disease.

What is canine cough?

Infectious tracheobronchitis is a highly contagious, upper-respiratory disease that is spread by an airborne virus. The incubation period of the disease is roughly 3-7 days. A dog can come into a boarding establishment with canine cough and go home before any signs have shown in the pet. The main symptom is a gagging cough, sometimes accompanied by sneezing and nasal discharge, which can last anywhere from a few days to several weeks. Although this coughing is very annoying, it does not usually develop into anything more serious. However, just as with the common cold, it can lower the dog's resistance to other disease thus increasing susceptibility to secondary infections, and so the dog must be observed closely to avoid complications.

How is it cured?

Just as in the case of the common cold, tracheobronchitis is not "cured" but must run its course. Many times antibiotics will be prescribed to prevent secondary infection. Sometimes cough suppressants will be prescribed to reduce excessive coughing, but these medications do not attack the disease itself.

Does tracheobronchitis only occur in kennels?

No. Since these viruses can be present anywhere, and can travel for considerable distances through the air, they can affect any dog ... even one which never leaves its own back yard. But tracheobronchitis is more likely to occur when the concentration of dogs is greater such as dog shows, kennels, veterinarian clinics and hospitals as well as pet shops, dog play parks and leash free areas. Dogs can also be exposed while running loose or while being walked near other dogs.

But aren't the chances of catching it greater when a dog is in boarding?

Yes ... because, in a kennel, a dog encounters two conditions which do not exist at home ... proximity to a number of potentially contagious dogs, and the stress and excitement of a less familiar environment, which can result in lowered resistance to disease (these same factors explain why children are more likely to catch the flu in school rather than at home). But the more frequently a dog boards at a kennel, the greater are the chances that he will acquire immunity to the disease. Even during a widespread outbreak, only a fairly small percentage of exposed dogs are affected.

Are these viruses a constant problem?

No. Tracheobronchitis, like the flu, is often seasonal. It also tends to be epidemic. When veterinarians begin to see cases, they normally come from every kennel in the area, as well as from individual dog owners whose dogs are not kennelled at all. When the outbreak is over, they might not see another case for months.

