

Subject: Important Information Regarding Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease

Dear Valued Client,

As you may have heard in the media, many dogs across the country are battling respiratory illness. Today, we are reaching out to share important information to keep you informed on the matter and share advice to keep your pet healthy.

Currently, experts are researching to identify the cause and determine whether the respiratory illness is caused by a new pathogen or a flare-up of existing ones. These flare-ups happen periodically, and there is a spectrum of severity across impacted pets, which is why we always recommend keeping your pets up to date on their vaccines. Regardless, prevention measures remain consistent. Respiratory diseases in dogs typically spread through air, close contact, or sharing food and water, particularly communal water bowls.

To safeguard your pet, we recommend adhering to the following guidelines:

1. Limit contact with dogs of unknown health or vaccination status.
2. Avoid communal food and water bowls in public spaces.
3. Ensure your dog is up to date on vaccinations for **Bordetella, Canine Parainfluenza virus, and Canine Influenza.**
4. Watch for symptoms such as coughing, nasal or eye discharge, fever (above 102.5), lethargy, loss of appetite, or difficulty breathing.

If you observe any of these signs, please contact us. For safety reasons, we may opt for curbside appointments or ask you to wait in your car until an exam room is available, preventing potential exposure to other pets. Our facility prioritizes the safety of your beloved pets, implementing enhanced isolation and cleaning protocols.

We encourage you to first use our medical team and consider the following sources when seeking the latest information on canine respiratory illness:

- American Veterinary Medical Association: [AVMA Link](#)
- Veterinary Internist and Infectious Disease Expert, Dr. Scott Weese: [Dr. Weese's Blog](#)

We are committed to your pet's well-being and will keep you informed as we learn more. We're wishing you and your family a safe and joyful holiday season.

Warm regards,
[Your Veterinary Practice]