

Kennel cough



What is kennel cough?

It is an upper airway infection caused by one or more infectious agents, *Bordetella bronchiseptica* being the most frequent. Vaccination is possible and gives good protection against this condition.

Kennel cough, as the name indicates, induces a sudden and severe cough that worsens during exercise or periods of excitement. Retching, fever, or clear nasal discharge are also frequently observed signs.

When should you seek a veterinarian's advice?

A cough can be seen with many other conditions, some of which can be serious or even fatal. It is therefore always recommended to have your pet checked out as soon as possible when he is showing respiratory signs.



What are the treatments involved?

- 🐾 Rest is the key to success! It is important to avoid any situation causing excitement or increased physical strain. Only short walks on a leash are permitted (5-10 min, 3x/day).
- 🐾 Walk your dog using a harness instead of a collar to avoid irritation and compression of the neck and throat.
- 🐾 Avoid contact with other dogs. This disease is extremely contagious (wait at least 10 days after the cough has cleared up). A minimum of 10 to 14 days are to be expected before the condition resolves completely.
- 🐾 If a pneumonia is diagnosed, your pet could require hospitalisation for a few days to receive the care he needs (fluid therapy, oxygen, intravenous antibiotics, etc).
- 🐾 It is not recommended to give anti-cough medicine as it will prevent expectoration of secretions.



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