

RESPIRATORY ILLNESS WARNING

The Chicago area is experiencing a serious outbreak of Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease (CIRD). Many dogs have tested positive for Canine Influenza Virus (CIV) but there may be other CIRD causes as well. These illnesses are easily spread from dog-to-dog. Untreated, they may advance to pneumonia or other health problems and require hospitalization.

How is Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease spread?

Canine respiratory infections can be spread from direct dog-to-dog contact, through contaminated objects, or through the air. It is commonly spread at places where dogs congregate including:



Doggie Daycare



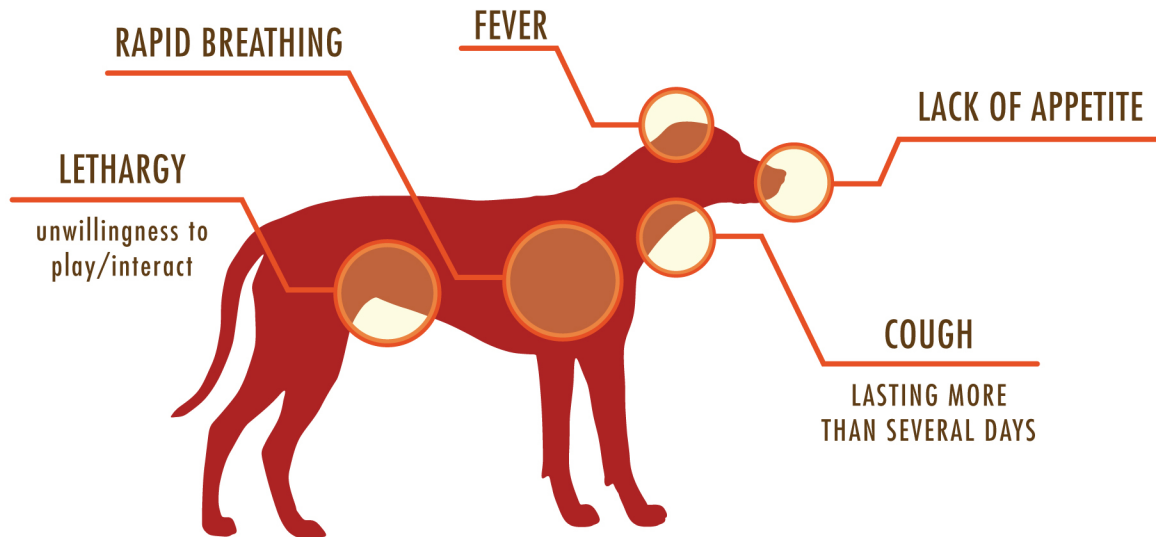
Dog Parks



Groomers

What are the symptoms?

The most recognizable symptom of this respiratory disease is a persistent dry cough and/or "honking" sound from your dog's throat. In most cases, dogs appear healthy other than the coughing sounds. Some may also gag or cough up a white, foamy phlegm. **Contact your veterinarian if your dog exhibits any of the following symptoms:**



What should dog owners do?

If your dog is showing symptoms, isolate them from other animals and contact your veterinarian immediately. If your dog is healthy, you should talk with your veterinarian to determine if the Canine Influenza and Bordetella vaccines are appropriate for your dog.



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