

# Canine Cough – Fact Sheet



Vets in Adelaide are noticing a sharp increase in the number of dogs coming in with Canine Cough symptoms.

Canine Cough is one of the most common infectious diseases of dogs - just like the common cold with humans. It is a contagious respiratory disease that is spread between dogs just as easily as colds are between humans.

Commonly referred to as 'Kennel Cough', Canine Cough can infect dogs anywhere that dogs gather, such as at parks, beaches, obedience classes, grooming parlours, daycare facilities, over the back fence, on the street or kennels.

Symptoms can include:

- A harsh choking – type cough
- Discharge from the eyes or nose
- Lethargy
- Loss of appetite

Canine Cough can be caused by a number of different viruses and bacteria, but the most common infectious agents are *Bordetella bronchiseptica*. Some dogs can carry the infection for weeks without showing any signs of disease. These dogs act as a source of infection for other dogs. The coughing bouts can persist for a day or two through to a number of weeks. Treatment may include antibiotics and cough medicine as prescribed by your vet.

*Bordetella bronchiseptica* vaccine comes in both an injectable and nasal spray form and you should speak with your vet as to which will be more beneficial for your dog. However, a dog may be vaccinated and still contract canine cough although their symptoms usually will be mild in comparison to unvaccinated dogs.

If you suspect your dog may have Canine Cough, Please:

1. Contact your vet
2. Let us know
3. Keep your dog at home until it is confirmed that are not infectious.

We at Furkids Funhouse take every precaution to prevent the spread of illnesses with daily cleaning and disinfecting plus thorough deep cleanse. Our facility is also fogged with disinfectants on a regular basis and all dogs are required to be vaccinated.

This fact sheet provides general advice only. Owners concerned about their dog should seek advice from their vet.