



What harm is done by **canine parvovirus?**

Once the virus enters your pet's body, it multiplies in the bone marrow, intestinal tract and immune system. As the virus matures and reproduces (over about five days), it can cause life-threatening damage to your pet's immune system and intestinal tract. Without fast diagnosis and treatment, your pet may die from dehydration and/or bacterial infection.

It is very important that you protect your pet from the threat of parvovirus. Talk to your veterinarian about the prevention, diagnosis and treatment of this deadly disease.

Ask us about how we can protect your dog from **canine parvovirus**

Parvovirus can be spread when a dog comes in contact with the feces of an infected dog. The virus can remain infectious on contaminated ground for five months or more. As a result, your pet can contract parvovirus anywhere dogs come together—such as parks, kennels, shelters and pet stores.

Parvovirus symptoms

If you see any of the following symptoms in your puppy or dog, contact your veterinarian immediately:

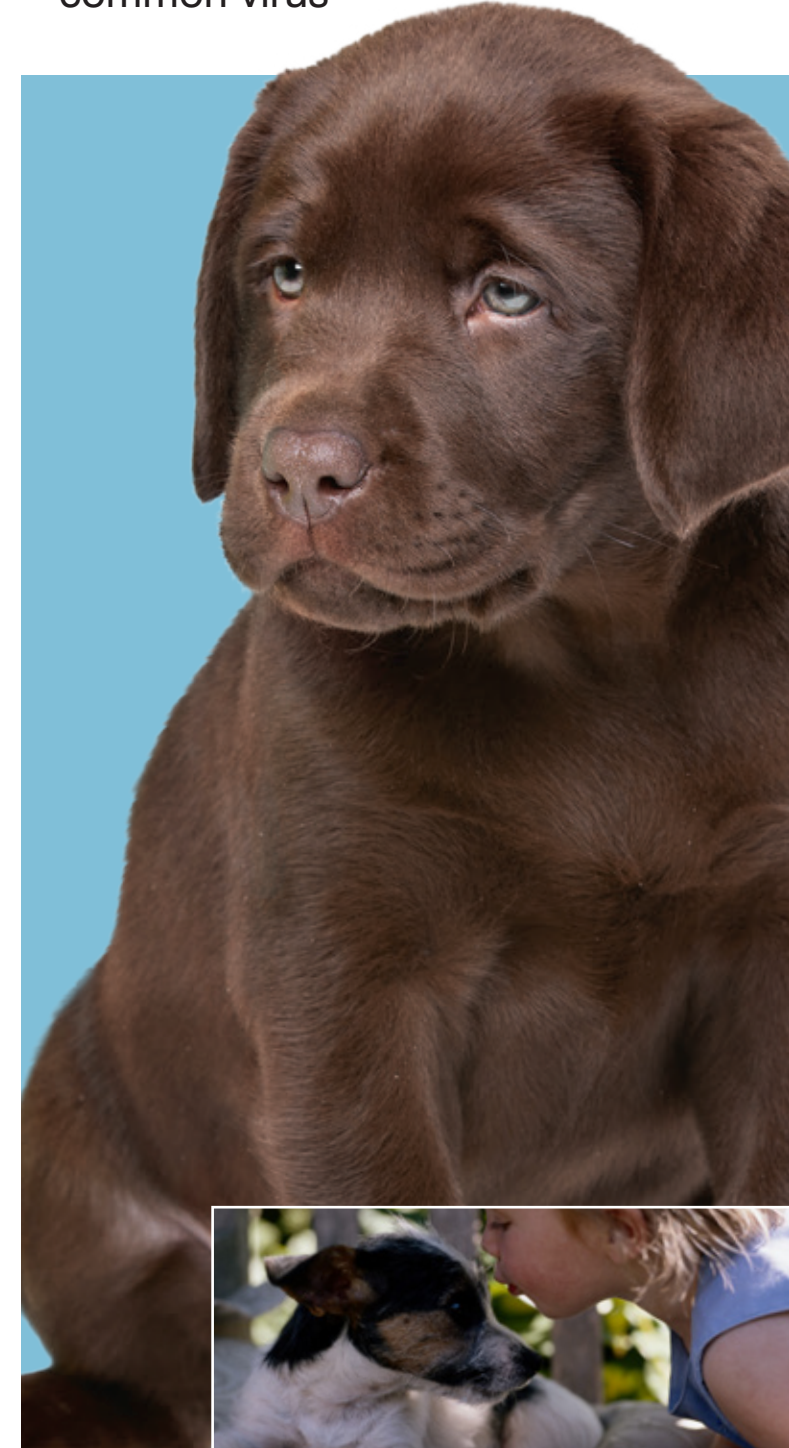
- Lack of appetite
- Lethargy or listlessness
- Vomiting
- Fever
- Abdominal distention (pot belly) or discomfort
- Signs of dehydration
- Bloody diarrhea
- Profuse diarrhea

The combination of symptoms can vary, therefore, parvovirus is difficult to diagnose based on symptoms alone. Rapid, in-clinic tests are crucial for diagnosis and appropriate therapy.

Vaccination is a very effective step to prevent this threatening disease. Please talk with us about vaccinating your dog.

Canine parvovirus

What you need to know to protect your pet from this common virus



What is canine parvovirus?

Canine parvovirus is one of the most common and severe gastrointestinal diseases of dogs.

Parvovirus most frequently attacks puppies younger than one year of age. The virus is extremely contagious and strikes rapidly and without warning. While most infected adult dogs recover, as many as 25% to 50% of infected puppies die from the disease if not diagnosed and treated immediately.



Understanding canine parvovirus



Diagnosis

Your veterinarian can use a SNAP® Parvo Antigen Test to detect parvovirus. Early diagnosis is critical to providing immediate and life-saving treatment.

Treatment

Treatment is primarily aimed at correcting dehydration and preventing fatal infection. For a mildly affected pet (usually an adult dog), outpatient care can be all that is needed. Severely affected pets (typically puppies) generally require hospitalization and additional therapy, including:

- Intravenous fluid therapy
- Correction of electrolyte levels (sodium and potassium)
- Intravenous glucose (blood sugar)
- Broad-spectrum antibiotics
- Anti-nausea medication
- Attentive nursing care

Your veterinarian may use other tests to monitor your pet's condition. Successful recovery usually takes about three to seven days of intensive veterinary care.



Prevention

Your puppy can be vaccinated against parvovirus. Vaccination begins at six to eight weeks of age, with booster shots every three to four weeks until your puppy is 16 to 18 weeks old. After that, annual boosters maintain immunity.

It is best to avoid taking your puppy to areas with lots of "dog traffic" until he or she completes the vaccination period and has full immunity.



Talk to your veterinarian

Your veterinarian is your best source of information about prevention, diagnosis and treatment.

And remember, if you think your pet may have parvovirus, seek veterinary attention immediately. Early detection and treatment offer your pet the best chance against this deadly disease.