



Why is your puppy coughing?

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Does your puppy have a dry, hacking, coarse cough? OR your puppy acts like something has caught in the back of his throat or trying to cough up white frothy material? If yes to some or all these signs.....your puppy might have Canine Infection Respiratory Syndrome (CIRS) used to be called Kennel Cough.

What is CIRS or Kennel Cough?

CIRS/Kennel Cough in puppies is a highly contagious upper respiratory infection and is caused by a combination of bacteria and viruses. The lining of the trachea and bronchi become inflamed and when air passes over them it results in an irritating cough.

Are other pets in the household at risk?

Yes and No. Kennel cough is a highly contagious disease. It transmits to other dogs much the same way as a human cold transmits through airborne organisms- dog to dog contact. Puppies or dogs not vaccinated against Kennel Cough are at the highest risk.

Does my puppy need treatment?

Yes and No. Uncomplicated cases of Kennel Cough usually resolve without any treatment within 7-14 days. In other words, if your dog has

no other symptoms other than a cough it isn't crucial to treat as the cough will go away in a week or two. For symptomatic relief, your veterinarian may prescribe medicines including antibiotics to lessen the chance of a secondary bacterial infection.

What are the complications of this syndrome?

Watch for the fever, lethargy, loss of appetite, eye and nose discharge, or green phlegm. Sometimes a secondary bacterial infection can lead to pneumonia.

Is this normal for puppies to still cough even after treatment?

Though symptoms resolves with within 3-5 days after treatment, sometime treated puppies continue to have some symptoms for a week or two. As long your puppy is playful, eating and the cough is not getting worse, it will go away in a few weeks.

What else helps in the recovery of CIRS/ kennel Cough?

To aid the recovery of your dog you should keep your puppy warm, and reduce any stress. Also remove your dog's collar and use a harness if you need to restrain him. Encourage him to drink plenty of water and remember he may have a sore throat so soft food usually goes down well. Limit exercise and don't smoke near him.



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