ProVetLogic
Professional
making the animal world a better place

638 East Willow St. Scottsboro, AL 35768
Phone: 800.869.4789
Email: education@provetlogic.com

Hot Zone Bulletin

SUBJECT: CONTROL OF CANINE INFLUENZA IN DOGS

Canine influenza is a highly contagious respiratory infection of dogs that is caused by a virus. The canine influenza virus is closely related to the virus that causes equine influenza and it is thought that the equine influenza virus mutated to produce the canine influenza virus. Two clinical syndromes have been seen in dogs infected with the canine influenza virus – a mild form of the disease and a more severe form that is accompanied by pneumonia.

About the mild form – Dogs suffering with the mild form of canine influenza develop a soft, moist cough that persists for 10 to 30 days. Some dogs have a dry cough similar to the "kennel cough" caused by Bordetella bronchispetica/parainfluenza virus complex. For this reason, canine influenza virus infections are frequently mistaken for "kennel cough." Dogs with the mild form of influenza may also have a thick nasal discharge, which is usually caused by a secondary infection.

About the severe form – Dogs with the severe form of canine influenza develop high fevers and have clinical signs of pneumonia, such as increased respiratory rates and effort. Pneumonia may be due to a secondary bacterial infection.

Because this is a newly emerging disease, almost all dogs, regardless of breed or age, are susceptible to infection and have no immunity. Virtually all dogs that are exposed to the virus become infected and nearly 80% show clinical signs of disease. Fortunately, most affected dogs have the mild form.

DO DOGS DIE FROM CANINE INFLUENZA?

Fatal cases of pneumonia resulting from infection with canine influenza virus have been reported in dogs, but the fatality rate (5% to 8%) has been low so far.

HOW WIDESPREAD IS THE DISEASE?

The first recognized outbreak of canine influenza in the world is believed to have occurred in racing greyhounds in January 2004 at a track in Florida. From June to August of 2004, outbreaks of respiratory disease were reported at 14 tracks in 6 states (Alabama, Arkansas, Florida, Kansas, Texas, and West Virginia). Between January and May of 2005, outbreaks occurred at 20 tracks in 11 states (Arizona, Arkansas, Colorado, Florida, Iowa, Kansas, Massachusetts, Rhode Island, Texas, West Virginia, and Wisconsin). ***Infection has also been confirmed in pet dogs in California, Connecticut, Florida, Georgia, Massachusetts, North Carolina, New Jersey, New York, Ohio, Oregon, Pennsylvania, Washington State, and Washington, D.C. These cases occurred in animal shelters, humane societies, rescue groups, pet stores, boarding kennels, and veterinary clinics.3. Stability: Commercial bleach can be very unstable in that the active ingredient (sodium hypochlorite) will dissipate over a very short period of time. The manufacturer may use a 10% solution of sodium hypochlorite to water but, by the time the product reaches the consumer, the actual active may reduce to 5%.***

IS CANINE INFLUENZA VIRUS TRANSMISSIBLE FROM DOGS TO HUMANS?

To date, there is no evidence of transmission of canine influenza virus from dogs to people.

SHOULD THERE BE A CONCERN ABOUT BOARDING A DOG AT A KENNEL OR DAY CARE?

Dog owners should be aware that any situation that brings dogs together increases the risk of spread of communicable illnesses. As long as good infection control practices are in place, pet owners should not be overly concerned about putting dogs in training facilities, dog parks, kennels, or other areas frequented by dogs.

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE TO KEEP CANINE INFLUENZA OUT OF THE PROFESSIONAL ANIMAL CARE FACILITY?

Routine infection control precautions are key to preventing spread of viral disease within animal care facilities. The canine influenza virus appears to be easily killed by disinfectants (e.g., quaternary ammonium compounds at a 1 to 30 dilution) in common use in veterinary clinics, boarding facilities, and animal shelters.

Hot Zone Protocols should be established for thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting cages, bowls, treatment areas, public areas and other areas and surfaces between uses.

Employees should wash their hands with soap and water (or use alcohol-based hand cleaner if soap and water are unavailable) before and after handling each dog; after coming into contact with a dog's saliva, urine, feces, or blood; after cleaning cages; and upon arriving at and before leaving the facility.

ProVetLogic
Professional
making the animal world a better place

1048 Stinson Drive, Reading PA 19605
Phone: 800.869.4789
Email: education@provetlogic.com

Hot Zone Bulletin

WHAT SHOULD BE DONE TO PREVENT TRANSMISSION OF INFLUENZA VIRUS FROM INFECTED DOGS TO SUSCEPTIBLE DOGS?

Caretakers can inadvertently transmit canine influenza virus from infected dogs to susceptible dogs by not following good hygiene and infection control practices. To prevent the spread of canine influenza virus, caretakers should take the following precautions:

1. Implement the following hand washing protocol: Canine influenza is a highly contagious respiratory infection of dogs that is caused by a virus. The canine influenza virus is closely related to the virus that causes equine influenza and it is thought that the equine influenza virus mutated to produce the canine influenza virus. Two clinical syndromes have been seen in dogs infected with the canine influenza virus – a mild form of the disease and a more severe form that is accompanied by pneumonia.

- **Before and after handling each animal**
- **After coming into contact with animal saliva, urine, feces, or blood**
- **After cleaning cages**
- **Before eating meals, taking breaks, smoking or leaving the facility**
- **Before and after using the restroom**

2. Wear Personal Protective Equipment (PPE), including a barrier gown of your clothes and gloves when handling sick animals or cleaning cages . Discard PPE before working with other animals.

3. Bring a clean change of clothes to wear home at the end of the day.

4. Thoroughly clean cloths and shoes worn at the animal facility at the end of each shift.

5. Do not eat in the animal care treatment or containment area.

A RECOMMENDED SOLUTION:

Efficacy Is Everything!

With Organic Soil Tolerance for use in Veterinary Clinics, Pet Shops, Kennels, Animal Care Facilities, Tack Shops, Animal Life Science Laboratories, Breeding and Grooming Establishments, Zoos, Food Processing Facilities and Farms.

CANINE EFFICACY
Bordatella (Kennel Cough)
Canine Parvovirus (CPV)
Canine Adenovirus
Canine Distemper
Canine Parainfluenza Virus
Canine Hepatitis
Infectious Bronchitis Virus
Rabies Virus

FELINE EFFICACY
Feline Calicivirus (virulent strain)
Feline Infectious Peritonitis
Feline leukemia virus
Feline Panleukopenia
Feline Picornavirus
Feline Rhinotrachetis

AVIAN EFFICACY
Avian Influenza A H9N2
Avian Laryngotrachetis
Avian Influenza A H5N1 Virus
Avian Reovirus

Please see product specification sheet for a complete efficacy list.