

# WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT CANINE PARVOVIRUS

BLUEPEARL: WHAT YOU SHOULD KNOW ABOUT  
CANINE PARVOVIRUS

**A highly contagious, potentially deadly disease, the canine parvovirus attacks the stomach and intestines and is found in all canines, including puppies, dogs, coyotes, wolves and foxes.**

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The disease is spread through stool and can remain infectious in high-traffic areas, such as dog parks, for months in various temperatures.

**Unvaccinated or partially vaccinated dogs and puppies are at greatest risk.**

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**Parvovirus symptoms include:**

- Vomiting and diarrhea
- Depression
- Fever
- Abdominal pain
- Decreased appetite, water intake
- Weakness
- Weight loss

Call your primary veterinarian immediately if your pet shows any of these symptoms.

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If you suspect parvovirus, bring your dog to a veterinarian immediately. With early treatment, survival rates can approach 90%.

**Without treatment, most deaths occur within 48 to 72 hours.**

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Intensive intravenous treatments and hospitalization may be required.

**Because parvovirus is highly contagious, pets are isolated from other pets — and their owners — during treatment.**

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Puppies need to be vaccinated at 6, 8 and 12 weeks. To prevent exposure, avoid taking your dog to dog parks or other high-traffic areas until fully vaccinated.

**Completing the full set of vaccines is crucial to prevention.**

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**Dogs start shedding the virus within four to five days of exposure but are often contagious before showing any symptoms.**

If you suspect parvovirus, isolate your pet and contact your primary veterinarian.

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**During the COVID-19 pandemic, BluePearl has seen a 70% increase in parvovirus cases across our 90 hospitals nationwide.**

This is relative to ER cases in 2020 as compared to the same time periods in the past five years (2015-19).

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**BluePearl continues to analyze the data, but initial conclusions suggest the pandemic playing a role.**

Financial hardships, lack of access and increased exposure outdoors (i.e., dog parks) could be factors.