

Wellington Veterinary Clinic, Inc.
45015 St. Rt. 18
Wellington, OH 44090
440-647-4100

Canine Influenza Awareness

Canine Influenza is now in Ohio! Here are some facts regarding Canine Influenza (CIV):

- ◇ Canine Influenza is highly contagious. Virtually all dogs become infected with the first exposure. This is because the virus is relatively new and dogs have no natural immunity to it.
- ◇ It is easily spread from dog to dog. There is a higher risk for dogs in adoption centers, shelters, and boarding facilities.
- ◇ About 80% of exposed dogs will show signs of infection. Even dogs that don't show signs can spread the virus to other dogs.
- ◇ A vaccine is now available for the Canine Influenza Virus H3N8.

The H3N8 virus has existed in horses for more than 40 years. Scientists first identified this virus in dogs in 2005 when a number of Greyhounds at a Florida racetrack become ill. It was determined that the virus had crossed species from horses to dogs. Currently 30 states including Ohio have reported cases of canine influenza.

Both Bordetella and the influenza virus have symptoms that mimic one another. Symptoms of the flu include persistent coughing, dry cough, low grade fever, nasal discharge, lack of energy, and loss of appetite. In about 20% of the cases, more severe symptoms can occur including high fever and pneumonia. A small number of dogs with the virus have died from complications of the disease.

You can protect your dog from this disease. A vaccine is now available and Wellington Veterinary Clinic recommends vaccinating dogs that are around other dogs, such as dogs that are boarded, groomed, attend Playcare, dog shows, dog parks, or training classes. Dogs must receive two vaccines, 2-4 weeks apart. The first vaccine is given by a veterinarian and the second vaccine can be given by one of our registered veterinary technicians. A yearly vaccine is then necessary. You can protect your dog from Canine Influenza!!

Refer to the following links for more information and frequently asked questions:

<http://www.cdc.gov/flu/canine>

http://www.avma.org/public_health/influenza/canine_bgnd.asp

www.aspca.org/pet-care/dog-care/dog-care-canine-flu-question-and-answer.html

Client info- Ca & Fe info on website- remove vax clinic