

PUPPY LOVE SHELTIES
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DOG FLU FACTS

- * The H3N8 influenza virus has jumped from horses to dogs.
- * This H3N8 virus causes "Dog Flu".
- * Initial findings of H3N8 infected dogs were found at a Florida Greyhound racing track.
- * The H3N8 virus causes symptoms that mimic traditional "kennel cough" that is typically caused by Bordetella Bronchispectica bacterium.
- * Other symptoms of H3N8 infection are nasal discharge and fever.
- * Both H3N8 and Bordetella are contagious between dogs.
- * The dogs diagnosed with H3N8 infection should be isolated.
- * Approximately 80% of H3N8 infections will be mild.
- * A small minority of infected dogs may experience complications such as pneumonia.
- * A small minority of infected dogs will also be symptomatic and will not show any sign of infection. However, it is believed that asymptomatic dogs are infectious.
- * The H3N8 virus has never infected humans.
- * H3N8 causes a morbidity rate of 5% to 8% in infected dogs.
- * There have been verified occurrences of H3N8 in dogs in South Florida shelters, boarding facilities and veterinary clinics.
- * H3N8 has also been verified in New York City and in Massachusetts.
- * If a dog exhibits coughing, nasal discharge or fever, the dog should be treated by a veterinarian as soon as possible.
- * Dog owners that have a dog that recently had a respiratory infection should keep their dogs home for a couple of weeks after the illness so as to not infect other dogs.
- * As a dog owner we need to make sure our dog is vaccinated yearly for Distemper and vaccinated for Kennel Cough/Bordetella in the spring and fall (every 6 months) [check with your vet about this]. This will reduce the likelihood of your dog contracting the influenza virus.

The above information was condensed from a transcript from a Center for Disease Control media teleconference on September 26, 2005

Some statements above MAY NOT share the same view as your veterinarian!