



Love your pet... love your vet

Is your dog at risk from kennel cough?

Kennel cough, otherwise known as ***canine infectious tracheobronchitis***, is a highly unpleasant and contagious disease of the dog's respiratory tract. Dogs of all ages can be affected and signs include a harsh, dry, whooping-type cough. Coughing can last for some weeks and, during this time, more serious complications such as pneumonia may arise and can even prove fatal in old, weak or very young dogs.

Passed from dog to dog by airborne droplets – a true case of 'coughs and sneezes spread diseases' – and direct nose to nose contact, dogs are at risk whenever they gather together, for example at boarding kennels, shows and training classes or even out on a walk.

Prevention is better than cure because, without vaccination, treatment of kennel cough can be a costly and lengthy process, involving isolation and antibiotic therapy. Many boarding kennels now insist that all dogs are vaccinated against kennel cough prior to admission, so if your dog is likely to be in contact with other dogs, particularly if you board your pet over the summer holidays, you should consider vaccination.

At Hillside we use an intranasal vaccine, which is very easy to administer and offers protection for a full 12 months. It can be given to dogs of any shape, size and age, including puppies from three weeks of age and provides protection in just 72 hours.

If you would like further information contact the surgery on 01202 698899 to make an appointment with your vet.

Disclaimer: The information and advice contained in this handout is for general information only. It is not intended to be a substitute for a veterinary examination and/or specific treatment or advice. You should always seek advice from your veterinary surgeon.

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