

General Information

Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex (CIRDC)



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Please find below summary points regarding the recently emerging canine respiratory syndrome:

Basic Background

- There appears to be a new version of CIRDC moving through Oregon dog populations.
- CIRDC, often referred to as 'kennel cough', is a clinical syndrome and has been linked to at least nine (9) different bacteria and viruses as a cause.
- Common examples include Bordetella, Adenovirus 2, Canine Distemper, Canine Influenza, Canine Parainfluenza.
- Symptoms of CIRDC include coughing, sneezing, nasal and/or eye discharge, and lethargy.
- CIRDC cases more commonly occur in animals housed in settings such as shelters, boarding, or training facilities rather than in animals housed in private homes, especially those with limited access to other dogs.
- CIRDC is transmitted through respiratory droplets.

Medical Care

- Veterinarians treat cases according to the dog's symptoms and severity of symptoms. Treatment may include antibiotics. Most dogs, especially those vaccinated against respiratory illness, experience a mild illness.
- Cases appear to primarily fall within three general clinical syndromes:
 - Chronic mild-moderate tracheobronchitis with a prolonged duration (6-8 weeks or longer) that is minimally or not responsive to antibiotics.
 - Chronic pneumonia that is minimally or not responsive to antibiotics.
 - Acute pneumonia that rapidly becomes severe and often leads to poor outcomes in as little as 24-36 hours.
- Contact your PRIMARY veterinarian for:
 - Coughing
 - Sneezing
 - Nasal or eye discharge
 - Decreased appetite or anorexia
- Come the EMERGENCY hospital for:
 - Rapid or labored breathing
 - Lethargy or weakness
 - Fever
 - *Note: Please keep your patient in your vehicle and call to announce your arrival. Avoid bringing your patient directly into the lobby.*

Prevention and How to Protect your pet:

- Keep your dog's annual vaccinations up to date.
- Minimize contact with other dogs.
- Monitor the information regarding this situation at reliable sources, such as the Oregon Veterinary Medical Association website: <https://www.oregonvma.org/news>