

OUTBREAKS OF CANINE INFLUENZA H3N2 AND LEPTOSPIROSIS IN DOGS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

Canine Influenza H3N2 (CIV H3N2) outbreak

- From July to September 2021, there have been over 1000 confirmed and suspected cases of CIV H3N2 reported in LA County and 5 dogs have died from the disease.
- This outbreak is spreading rapidly throughout LA County, affecting many pet boarding and daycare facilities. Some pets have also been infected at dog parks, while on walks, and other places where they come near other dogs.
- Clinical signs include: cough, fever, sneezing, discharge from the nose, lethargy and loss of appetite. Signs vary from no symptoms to developing severe or fatal pneumonia.
- Dog can get sick from direct contact with other dogs that are infected, through coughing or sneezing, or by contact with contaminated objects (clothing, shoes, food and water bowls, toys, etc.).
- Testing for the virus is available from your veterinarian.
- Dogs with CIV H3N2 can be contagious to other dogs for several weeks after recovery.



Canine leptospirosis outbreak

- From July to September 2021, 107 confirmed and 16 suspected cases of leptospirosis have been reported and 6 dogs have died from the disease.
- Most of the cases are associated with places where dogs gather (boarding, daycare, dog parks). Some cases have been exposed on walks around their neighborhood.
- Clinical signs include: lack of energy, loss of appetite, urinating excessively, drinking excessively, and vomiting. Some dogs do not have symptoms. A number of cases progress to severe kidney or liver damage and require hospitalization.
- Dogs can get sick when they have contact with the bacteria either in the soil, in the water, or in the urine of infected dogs or wildlife.
- Testing for this disease is available from your veterinarian.
- Leptospirosis is zoonotic. Humans can contract this disease from infected pets by exposure to the pet's urine. Gloves should be worn when cleaning up urine from an infected pet.

Protect your pet and help stop the spread of these diseases:

- Vaccinate dogs against both CIV H3N2 and leptospirosis, especially before entering boarding or daycare facilities or coming in contact with other dogs.
- Keep sick or infected dogs at home:
 - For CIV H3N2 – keep sick dogs home for 28 days from the first day of illness.
 - For leptospirosis – keep dogs at home until medication is finished.

For more information:

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet>



9/22/2021