

The tests can be performed using respiratory secretions collected at the time of disease onset or using two blood samples; the first collected while the animal is sick and the second 2 to 3 weeks later.

How is canine influenza treated?

Treatment largely consists of supportive care. This helps the dog mount an immune response. In the milder form of the disease, this care may include medication to make your dog more comfortable and fluids to ensure that your dog remains well-hydrated. Broad spectrum antibiotics may be prescribed by your veterinarian if a secondary bacterial infection is suspected.

Is there a vaccine for canine influenza?

Yes, an approved vaccine is available.

What is the risk to humans from this virus?

To date, there is no evidence of transmission of canine influenza virus from dogs to people and there has not been a single reported case of human infection with the canine influenza virus. While this virus infects dogs and spreads between dogs, there is no evidence that this virus infects humans.

However, human infections with new influenza viruses (against which the human population has little immunity) would be concerning if they occurred. Influenza viruses are constantly changing and it is possible for a virus to change so that it could infect humans and spread easily between humans. Such a virus could represent a pandemic influenza threat. For this reason, CDC and its partners are monitoring the H3N8 influenza virus (as well as other animal influenza viruses) along with instances of possible human exposure to these viruses very closely. In general, however, canine influenza viruses are considered to pose a low threat to humans. As mentioned earlier, while these viruses are well established in horse and dog populations, there is no evidence of infection among humans with this virus.



My dog has a cough what should I do?

Schedule an appointment with your veterinarian so that they can evaluate your dog and recommend an appropriate course of treatment.

Where can I find more information on canine influenza virus?

More information on canine influenza in pet dogs can be found in this article: [Influenza A Virus \(H3N8\) in Dogs with Respiratory Disease, Florida \(http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/14/6/902.htm\)](http://www.cdc.gov/eid/content/14/6/902.htm) in Emerging Infectious Diseases journal.

Related Links

- [CDC Healthy Pets Healthy People \(http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets\)](http://www.cdc.gov/healthypets)
- [American Veterinary Medical Association \(http://www.avma.org/\)](http://www.avma.org/) 
<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>
- [Association of Shelter Veterinarians \(http://www.sheltervet.org/\)](http://www.sheltervet.org/) 
<http://www.cdc.gov/Other/disclaimer.html>