



## CANINE PARVOVIRUS

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### PARVO SYMPTOMS

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Lethargy
- Dehydration
- Loss of appetite
- Possible fever

Parvovirus is one of the most common and severe gastrointestinal diseases of dogs. Parvovirus is considered ubiquitous (present everywhere). This means that EVERY puppy or unvaccinated dog is at risk for the disease, even if they never leave the back yard.

Parvo is spread by direct or indirect contact with infected feces. Adult dogs may be infected carriers without showing any clinical signs. Parvo is highly contagious to unprotected dogs and the virus can remain infectious in ground contaminated with fecal material for months, if conditions are favorable. The virus is extremely hardy in the environment, withstanding wide temperature fluctuations and most cleaning agents. Parvo can be brought home to your dog on your shoes, hands and clothes.

After exposure, it takes 3-14 days (usually 5-7 days) for signs to develop. Common clinical signs of parvovirus infection include lethargy, loss of appetite, fever, vomiting, and diarrhea. The diarrhea is often severe and bloody. A puppy showing any of these signs should be seen by a veterinarian immediately. Parvovirus attacks the tissue lining the intestinal tract, which is what causes bloody diarrhea. This also leads to a breakdown of the tissue barrier preventing intestinal bacteria from entering the blood stream. Vomiting and diarrhea, combined with not eating or drinking well, often leads to rapid,

severe dehydration. The parvovirus also attacks the bone marrow, which is where the white blood cells that fight infection are produced. This leads to a decline in the animal's white blood cells, so they are no longer able to fight off the bacterial infections arising from the compromised intestines. Sepsis, or infection throughout the blood stream, may result. Sepsis and dehydration may lead to death, in as little as 48-72 hours of onset of clinical signs.

Treatment is primarily aimed at correcting dehydration and preventing fatal infection. For a mildly infected dog (usually an adult), outpatient care may be all that is needed. Severely affected pets (typically puppies), generally require hospitalization and additional therapy.

Your puppy should be vaccinated against parvovirus. Vaccinations begin at 6 to 8 weeks of age, with booster shots every 3 to 4 weeks until your puppy is 16 to 18 weeks old. After that, annual or tri-annual boosters maintain immunity. It's best to avoid taking your puppy to areas with a lot of other dogs (such as the dog park or pet stores), until he or she completes the vaccination period and has full immunity.



## FAQS: VACCINATIONS

### I just got a new puppy/kitten. When do I need to get them vaccinated?

You should start vaccinating your pet when they are 6-8 weeks of age. After the first of the vaccines, they need to be boosted every 3 weeks until they are 16 weeks old.

### Why do puppies and kittens need a series of vaccines?

We vaccinate multiple times in order to protect your pet after the antibodies that were transferred by the mother wear off. This happens at different times in each animal, so vaccinating multiple times ensures your pet can mount its own permanent antibody response against disease.

**How long does it take for vaccines to work?** Vaccines do not stimulate immunity immediately after they are administered. In most animals, disease protection does not begin until five days after vaccination. Full protection from a vaccine usually takes up to fourteen days.

### How long are the vaccines good for?

*Rabies:* After the first vaccine, it will need to be boosted one year later. All subsequent boosters are

good for 3 years.

*DAP:* After the last vaccine at 16 weeks, it will need to be boosted one year later. Subsequent boosters are given every 3 years.

*Bordetella:* Depending on the type of stress and exposure, bordetella can be good for either 6 or 12 months. Please discuss with the vet.

*Feline HCP:* After the initial kitten series, it will need to be boosted one year later. Subsequent boosters are given every 3 years.

*Feline FELV:* The feline leukemia vaccine is given annually. After the first vaccine and booster, please discuss with your doctor.

### What is "DAP?"

*This combination vaccine protects against the viruses Distemper, Hepatitis and Parvo.*

### I don't board my dogs, so do I need to get the bordetella vaccine?

*We generally recommend that any dog that comes into contact with other dogs be protected with the bordetella vaccine. For boarding, grooming or day care, you will need proof of a current bordetella vaccine. Additionally, it is important that your dog be protected if it visits parks or goes on walks. Discuss the lifestyle of your pet with your vet.*

## ASK THE VET

**Q:** I am traveling out of state with my pet – do I need a health certificate?

**A:** For travel outside the state or country, a health certificate, dated within 10 days of departure, is required. Your pet must be examined by a veterinarian in order for a health certificate to be issued. This certificate basically indicates your pet is healthy to travel and is

not showing signs of a disease that could be passed to other animals or to people. Certain vaccinations must be up to date for a health certificate to be issued. Requirements vary by location so it is best to research and find out what is exactly required where you are going.

When making an appointment for a health certificate, schedule it within 10 days of travel and make sure you bring the destination address with you, as it is required on the certificate.



## SUMMER WARNINGS

Now that summer weather is here, many people are enjoying the sunny days outside with their pets. As temperatures soar, we should take special precautions to protect our animals from heat-related and summer emergencies.

### HOT PAVEMENT:

Always check the temperature of pavement before letting your dog walk on it. As a basic 'rule of paw,' if the pavement feels too hot for your bare feet, it is too hot for Fido's. Do this test: press your own bare hands or feet on sunny pavement for at least 7-8 seconds to assess heat level. If it is uncomfortable for you, then it is too hot for your dog!

### HEAT STROKE:

While most of us are aware of the risk of overheating when pets are left in cars, many pet owners don't realize that animals can suffer heatstroke during normal, day-to-day activity. Heatstroke occurs when a pet cannot pant away enough of the heat building up in his body. When it is hot outside, restrict exercise to early morning hours, and after the sun goes down. Pets need access to cool water at all times, and care should be taken not to leave pets tied or penned in places where they cannot find shade, even for a short time. Keep pets indoors during the hottest times of the day. Pet owners should be aware that heatstroke is a true emergency. Symptoms can include excessive panting and drooling, glazed eyes or staring, confusion, staggering, vomiting, and bright red or purplish tongue and gums. If you suspect that your pet may be overheated, wet him thoroughly with cool (not ice-cold) water and place him in front of a fan. Contact your veterinarian immediately, or take your pet to an animal emergency clinic if your regular animal hospital is closed.



### 4<sup>th</sup> OF JULY:

The fourth of July can be a festive time of year, but it can be a scary time for pets. The loud noises of fireworks, bottle rockets, and other noise-makers can easily startle pets because their ears are more sensitive than ours. Often when pets are scared, their behavior will change and may be quite unpredictable.

Around the house, there are some preventative measures that can be taken to lessen the stress on your pet. Close all doors and windows to help muffle outside noise. The firework bangs can sound louder than thunder to your pet. The bursts of light can also scare your pet, so keep all blinds or curtains drawn. It may even help to turn on a TV or radio to drown out the other noises in your neighborhood.



Despite all the precautions you take, your pet may still escape and/or get lost. It is during the Fourth of July holiday that the local shelters see the highest increase in lost dogs and cats. Make sure your pet has proper ID tags with a current phone number and/or address. A microchip is another wonderful and PERMANENT form of identification. Many animals lose their collars when they escape, but the microchip will always be there! 🐾

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## CLINIC NOTES

- ◆ Make sure you provide one of the receptionists with your current e-mail address, which will allow you access to *PetPortals*. This allows you 24/7 access to your pet's medical records as well as the ability to request appointments and medication refills online and more! Your privacy is respected and your information will not be shared.
- ◆ **It is our policy to require 24 hour notice on all medication refills.** Your understanding and cooperation with this matter is appreciated.
- ◆ Labwork turnaround time varies due to the tests ordered. The doctor or technician will call you with results once they are received.
- ◆ Please notify a receptionist if there are any changes to your phone number, address or email.
- ◆ If you love the care and service at All Creatures, please refer a friend. When they provide your name during their first visit, your account will automatically be credited \$25 and they will also receive \$25 off their first visit!

## NEW FACES AT ALL CREATURES

The two newest faces at All Creatures are Jessica G. and Brittany.

Jessica joined our team last October. She previously interned at All Creatures while she was finishing her schooling. After receiving her Certified Veterinary Technician certification, she worked at a clinic in the east valley before finding her way back to All Creatures. She and her husband are proud parents to their 9 month old daughter.

Brittany has joined Carrie and Courtney in the front office. She has 7 years of experience working at another animal clinic in the west valley. She enjoys spending her free time with her husband and their 2 cats.

## "FREQUENT FLYER" PROGRAM

**BUY 5 FREE!**  
Get the 6th

We are excited to announce Dr. Ingram's "Frequent Flyer" Program for our feathered friends. When you buy 5 "bird groomings" (wings, nails, beak trim), you will receive the 6th one free!



At your next visit, make sure you ask for a punch card to keep track of your grooming visits.

## FEATURED BREED: WEIMARANER

Weimaraners are affectionately called Weims or Grey Ghosts. Part of their appeal lies in their sleek grey coat and light amber or blue eyes. But there's far more to the Weimaraner than his distinctive appearance. The elegant, aristocratic dogs are loving and devoted.

A Weimaraner's first desire is to be with his people, preferably within touching range. They'll lie at your feet or follow you through the

house.

Weimaraners aren't the breed for everyone, however. These dogs have a great deal of energy and stamina and need a lot of exercise and mental stimulation. Without it, they're likely to become nervous and high-strung. They can be quite a handful, with loads of energy to burn, and the intelligence to figure



out how to get into trouble all on their own!

Weimaraners are independent thinkers and will constantly test your boundaries.

Training should be gentle and firm, however, because harsh treatment will make him resentful.

Once he's trained, the Weimaraner is a versatile dog who can be an up-close-and-personal hunting companion, compete in agility, and be a fine family

friend.

Their life span is generally between 11-13 years.

Arizona Weimaraner Rescue  
[www.arizonaweimaranerrescue.com](http://www.arizonaweimaranerrescue.com)

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## FEATURED BREED: BURMESE

Burmese are amusing, playful, and super-smart, the perfect interactive cats for your family. Devoted cats, Burmese are loyal and

people-oriented.

Breeders report temperament differences between males and females. The females are highly curious, active, and very emotionally involved with their family. The altered males love their humans too, but are



more placid.

The Burmese cat breed is a medium sized cat with a strong, well muscled and compact body. The coat is short, silky and shiny and does not require much grooming other than a weekly brushing to remove loose hair. Burmese comes in four colors, led by sable and followed by champagne, blue and platinum.

Females weigh between 8 and 10 pounds and males average between 10 and 12 pounds.

HALO Animal Rescue  
<http://www.halorescue.org>  
 Cow Cats Pet Adoption  
<http://www.cowcats.com>  
 AZ Humane Society  
<http://www.azhumane.org>

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## FEATURED CREATURE: LEOPARD GECKO

Leopard geckos are nocturnal ground dwelling lizards that originate from desert areas in Afghanistan, Pakistan, and western India. They are one of only a few species of geckos that have eyelids, which help keep their eyes clean in their dusty natural environment. They are very popular pets, in part because of their ability to thrive in captivity but also because of their docile dispositions, their openness for being handled and their charming personalities.

Adult leopard geckos will grow to around 9 inches, with males typically being larger than females and when cared for properly have been known to live up to 20-years in captivity.



# **CURRENT SPECIALS!**

**. \$20 off every microchip placement through the end of June!**

**. Heartworm Testing-  
\$29.50**



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**[Facebook.com/AllCreaturesClinic](https://www.facebook.com/AllCreaturesClinic)**