

Canine Influenza Update

- The Canine Influenza Virus (CIV) responsible for the outbreak in Atlanta and Chicago has been identified for H3N2, of Korean origin.
- It was originally seen in Doggie Day Cares and NOT shelters
- The virus has spread to all corners of the United States
- CIV will survive on clothes for 12 to 24 hours and on surface, inanimate objects etc for up to 48 hours
- This virus can shed for 2 to 3 weeks once the patient is infected
- Clinical signs include honking cough, fever, nasal discharge, and some will have vomiting and diarrhea.
- The cough can last for up to 60 days
- This is a disease that is primarily seen in pet dogs, not shelter dogs
- Greater than 400 dogs were affected in the Chicago area, none of them were vaccinated for canine influenza
- There are 2 documented infections with cats so far (2 different states) so cross species infection is a risk with this virus
- This virus cannot infect people at this time but could mutate at anytime to start infecting people, especially if a canine patient is infected with the H3N2 virus and H3N8 virus at the same time
- This disease can be diagnosed via nasal swab and virus isolation or blood work and a respiratory panel.

Vaccine Facts:

- Killed H3N8 (different strain than current outbreak but should have cross protection)
- Licensed to decrease severity of the clinical signs and length of disease NOT prevention of disease
- Can be started at 6 weeks of age
- Booster at 3 weeks (very important to booster no earlier than 2 weeks and no later than 4 weeks after the first shot)
- After initial series, recommend annual booster