



**SAMFORD
PET RESORT**

The pet care professionals

A number of Veterinary Clinics have reported seeing an increasing amount of patients suffering from canine cough. Whilst at Samford Pet Resort, your dog has not shown any symptoms, however may have been in contact with a dog harbouring the virus.

ABOUT CANINE COUGH

Canine Cough, also known as infectious tracheobronchitis, is one of the most common respiratory diseases in dogs and is highly contagious, due to being an airborne virus. Dogs can become infected with Canine Cough wherever they gather, such as in parks, dog runs, obedience classes, dog shows or kennels. Even if your dog is vaccinated there is still some risk of infections.

The only sign should be a harsh hacking cough, which often finishes with gagging. "Tracheobronchitis should be suspected whenever the characteristic cough suddenly develops about 10 days after exposure to other susceptible or affected dogs. Usually severity diminishes during the first 5 days, but the disease persists for 10-20 days." (The Merck Veterinary Manual, 8th Edition, 1998. Merck & Co Inc. p, 1125.)

It is recommended that your dog be kept as quiet as possible, as undue stress or excitement can cause these symptoms to become worse. More urgent treatment is required if signs such as lethargy, loss of appetite, or greenish nasal discharge occurs and the cough persists. If these symptoms appear, phone for a time to see your vet as soon as possible.

No amount of supervision, sanitation, or personalized care can prevent a dog from "catching" an airborne virus. All that a good boarding kennel can do is to strongly recommend immunisation against tracheobronchitis, refuse to board any obviously sick dog, listen and watch for any signs of sickness, and make sure that any dog requiring veterinary attention receives it as quickly as possible. (Strangely, the dog with parainfluenza alone may not appear ill, yet is contagious.) Professional boarding kennels would justifiably expect owners to accept the financial responsibility for such care. Your PIAA member is devoted to your pet's well being. Look for his membership certificate proudly displayed.

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Association of Pet Boarding and Grooming
Incorporated in Queensland 1993

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ATTENTION ALL DOG OWNERS

RE: Canine Cough

The Association of Pet Boarding & Grooming have informed us they have had reports of dogs with canine cough in this area.

Canine Cough is one of the most common and infectious diseases in dogs. Outbreaks occur because it is a contagious respiratory disease. (It is likened to the human flu virus).

Dogs can become infected with **Canine Cough** anywhere that dogs gather such as off leash parks, obedience classes, dog shows, kennels, and vets.

The classical sign of **Canine Cough** is a harsh, hacking cough that often finishes with gagging. Severely affected dogs may develop a fever, feel depressed and have a loss of appetite.

The coughing bouts can persist for a number of weeks, despite your dog having been vaccinated. Vaccinating helps resist the virus but not avoid it.

Life threatening cases of **Canine Cough** are extremely rare and a vast majority of dogs that acquire the infection will recover on their own with no medication. Cough suppressants and occasionally antibiotics are the usual treatment selections if you choose to go to the vet.

If you have any concerns regarding your dog please talk to your vet.