

What is Parvovirus?

Canine parvovirus (CPV) disease is currently the most common infectious disorder of dogs in the United States.

'Parvo' is a highly contagious disease characterized by diarrhea that is often bloody. Current vaccinations have helped to control the spread of this disease but despite being vaccinated, some dogs still contract and die from parvovirus.

Parvovirus is spread through contact with feces containing the virus. The normal incubation period (time from exposure to the virus to the time when signs of disease appear) is from 7-14 days.

If you suspect parvovirus in your dog, call your veterinarian immediately.

For more information, visit:
www.ci.chowchilla.ca.us/police/animal_control.htm

Symptoms of Parvo:

- 🐕 The most common form of the disease is the intestinal form known as **enteritis**.
- 🐕 Parvovirus enteritis is characterized by vomiting (often severe), diarrhea, dehydration, dark or bloody feces, and in several cases, fever and **lowered white blood cell counts**.
- 🐕 **Acute** parvovirus enteritis can be seen in dogs of any breed, sex, or age. The disease will progress very rapidly and death can occur as early as two days after the onset of the disease.
- 🐕 The disease is **most severe** in cases of puppies younger than 12 weeks old.

Immunity and Vaccination:

The generally recommended protocol is to vaccinate puppies against parvovirus beginning at 6-8 weeks of age, and revaccinating every 3 weeks until the puppy is 16-20 weeks of age. A booster is given at one year of age and every 1-3 years thereafter. Check with your veterinarian.



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