

# PROTECT YOUR DOGS FROM THIS DEADLY VIRUS



## Parvo

Canine parvovirus (CPV) is **highly contagious** and affects dogs only.

The virus quickly kills important cells in the body, like in the intestines and bone marrow. It spreads easily through contact between dogs or by touching contaminated surfaces.

It's very hardy in the environment and can remain active on common surfaces like floors and sidewalks for many months, and in grass and soil for months or **even years**.

### SYMPTOMS & SIGNS

If your pet has any of these symptoms please call NAGI Foundation for assistance or go to the nearest veterinary clinic.

- Lethargy (lack of energy)
- Vomiting (sometimes severe)
- Diarrhea (sometimes severe or bloody)
- Extreme dehydration
- Lack of appetite



Symptoms usually develop 2-14 days after exposure but not all dogs will become infected, or have symptoms. Contagious period starts a few days before symptoms and can last up to 2 weeks after recovery.



### WHO'S AT RISK?

Puppies who have not completed the initial vaccine series and adult dogs who have never been vaccinated are at the greatest of getting sick and death. But, dogs who have been vaccinated in the past and are not current on their annual vaccines are still at risk.

QUESTIONS? Email [info@nagifoundation.org](mailto:info@nagifoundation.org)

## TREATMENT

**There is no “cure” or anti-viral treatment for Parvo.** Treatment is administered through aggressive supportive care and in some cases hospitalization may be necessary. With careful attention, rigorous outpatient care plans can be successful though.

Treatment measures typically include medications and therapies that treat the most dangerous symptoms like critical dehydration and secondary infection, such as:

- Antibiotics
- IV or subcutaneous fluids
- Nutritional support, often through feeding tube
- Anti-vomiting and anti-diarrheal medications
- Pain management
- Deworming



*A newly available monoclonal antibody treatment also has potential to shorten the duration of the illness and improve chances of recovery.*

## PREVENTION & DISINFECTION

**The key to preventing Parvo is annual vaccines.** Puppies begin vaccines at 5-6 weeks of age and need to receive a booster shot every 3-4 weeks until 20 weeks old.

After puppy vaccines, dogs should be vaccinated is annually.

If you take your puppy in public before they're fully vaccinated, transport in a pet carrier or hand-carry to avoid touching the ground or other surfaces that could have been contaminated by infected dogs. Avoid all interactions with unvaccinated dogs.

**Proper cleaning after Parvo exposure is critical.** The virus can stay active on surfaces for a very long time (months or years). Sanitize all floors, fabrics, bedding, clothing or other items an infected dog touched.

Read on for tips on how to do this safely and effectively.

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# DISINFECTION AFTER PARVO EXPOSURE

## Non-Porous Surfaces - (Floors, crates, concrete/driveways, plastic toys etc)

- Remove all organic material (feces, vomit etc)
- Use Accelerated Hydrogen Peroxide (AHP) like the brand "Rescue" OR a 1:30 diluted bleach solution. Let disinfectant sit on surfaces at least 10 minutes.
- Rinse thoroughly with water and make sure area is well-ventilated.



## Porous Surfaces - (Carpet, bedding, furniture, clothing, shoes, towels, blankets etc)

- Throw away anything you can, especially if it is heavily soiled.
- If it can go in the washing machine, run on hot water with detergent and bleach. Dry on high heat
- For carpets and furniture, a steam cleaner with hot water is the best measure.

## Yard/Grass/Soil

In yards with grass and dirt, it's not possible to completely disinfect. You should avoid having any unvaccinated dogs in the yard for a year. There are still some measures you can take to **decrease** the amount of virus in that may be in the yard though:

- Remove all feces on a regular basis.
- Flush yard with water and allow to dry.
- Maximize sunlight - UV rays help kill more of the virus.

Bleach solutions are not as effective when used on organic materials, and may cause significant damage to plants, but a diluted bleach solution can be sprayed on grass to help further kill some amount of virus. Let the area dry completely before allowing people or pets into the area.

### EXTRA TIP



Bathe dogs immediately if exposed to parvo, and after recovery, with regular dog shampoo. This will decrease the possibility of spreading the virus on their fur.