

PARVOVIRUS (PARVO)

*Protecting Your Puppy and
Dog From a Deadly Virus*



Parvovirus enteritis (commonly called Parvo) is a highly contagious and potentially fatal viral disease that affects dogs, particularly puppies and unvaccinated pets.

Parvo attacks the intestinal tract and immune system, causing severe illness that requires urgent veterinary treatment.

Vaccination remains the most effective way to protect your dog from this devastating disease.

1 WHAT IS PARVOVIRUS?

Parvovirus is a highly contagious viral infection that affects dogs of all breeds.

The virus attacks:

- ✓ The intestinal tract
- ✓ The immune system
- ✓ Rapidly dividing cells within the body



Without treatment, Parvo can quickly become life-threatening.



DID YOU KNOW?

Parvovirus can survive in the environment for many months.

2 HOW DOES PARVO SPREAD?

Parvovirus spreads through:

- ✓ Contact with infected dogs
- ✓ Contact with infected faeces
- ✓ Contaminated parks and public areas
- ✓ Kennels and dog facilities
- ✓ Shoes, clothing and equipment

The virus is extremely hardy and easily spread between dogs.



3 WHICH DOGS ARE MOST AT RISK?

Higher-risk dogs include:

- ✓ Puppies under 12 months of age
- ✓ Unvaccinated puppies
- ✓ Adult dogs not fully vaccinated
- ✓ Dogs exposed during local outbreaks



IMPORTANT

Even healthy-looking dogs can carry and spread the virus.

4 SIGNS OF PARVOVIRUS

Common signs include:

- ✓ Vomiting
- ✓ Bloody diarrhoea
- ✓ Lethargy
- ✓ Loss of appetite
- ✓ Depression
- ✓ Rapid dehydration



Prompt veterinary treatment is essential.



5 WHY IS PARVO AN EMERGENCY?

Parvovirus can cause:

- ✓ Severe dehydration
- ✓ Life-threatening infection
- ✓ Shock
- ✓ Hospitalisation
- ✓ Death without treatment



If your dog develops vomiting or diarrhoea, contact your veterinarian immediately.



6 DIAGNOSIS & TREATMENT

Diagnosis may involve:

- ✓ Physical examination
- ✓ Parvovirus testing
- ✓ Blood tests
- ✓ Hospital monitoring

Treatment may include:

- ✓ Intravenous fluids
- ✓ Anti-nausea medication
- ✓ Antibiotics
- ✓ Intensive nursing care
- ✓ Nutritional support

Early treatment significantly improves survival rates.



DID YOU KNOW?

Treatment for Parvovirus can be intensive and costly, and is not always successful.



7 PUPPY VACCINATION PROGRAM

To help protect against Parvovirus:

- ✓ Start vaccinations at 6-8 weeks of age
- ✓ Continue vaccinations every 3-4 weeks
- ✓ Complete the full puppy course
- ✓ Final puppy vaccination at 14-16 weeks of age



A complete vaccination course provides the best protection.



8 PREVENTION IS KEY

Protect your puppy by:

- ✓ Keeping vaccinations up to date
- ✓ Avoiding dog parks until fully vaccinated
- ✓ Avoiding walking tracks used by unknown dogs
- ✓ Avoiding kennels until fully vaccinated
- ✓ Limiting contact with unfamiliar dogs



IMPORTANT

Puppies are not fully protected until **TWO WEEKS** after their final puppy vaccination.



9 KEY TAKEAWAYS

- ✓ Parvovirus is highly contagious
- ✓ Puppies are most at risk
- ✓ Vaccination is the best protection
- ✓ Early treatment improves survival
- ✓ Prevention is far safer and less costly than treatment
- ✓ Contact your veterinarian immediately if signs develop



QUICK TIP

If you notice vomiting, bloody diarrhoea, lethargy or loss of appetite in your dog, seek veterinary advice immediately. Early intervention provides the best chance of recovery and survival.

