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ALL AMERICAN PET RESORTS FORT MYERS

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JULY 2017

Hello -

It's hard to believe that it's already mid-summer! We hope that you had a wonderful spring and are looking forward to spending some fun in the sun over the next few months. As always, we are here to look after your pets.

Canine Cough

Summertime is Canine Cough season. Here are some facts about Canine Cough that you should know.

First, some history: Canine Cough is often referred to as "kennel cough." In the old days, dogs didn't socialize like they do today. The only place where they encountered others was in

dogs didn't socialize like they do today. The only place where they encountered others was in a kennel. So, if a dog came down with a cough, it was presumed to be the fault of the kennel. The good news is that our industry has come a long way. Modern facilities are proactively requiring updated vaccination and are cleaner, more professional and better educated.

Fact #1. Canine Cough is a contagious virus and is passed from pet to pet just like the common cold is passed from person to person. The virus is called Bordetella, and it is airborne. It is present everywhere multiple dogs mingle. The best defense against this virus is the Bordetella vaccine.

Fact #2. The strength of your pet's immune system is a contributing factor in defending him against the Bordetella virus.

Fact #3. Even with the vaccine, your pet may still contract the virus. Vaccines are only effective for known strains and only protect your dog against those strains. According to the National Library of Medicine, there are currently 42 known strains of Bordetella and the number changes frequently from source to source and as new strains are discovered.

Fact #4. Without secondary symptoms, the Bordetella virus causes nothing more than a common cold.

Fact #5. If your pet does get a cold that does not improve after a few days, or at any point becomes more symptomatic, consult your veterinarian just as you would consult your doctor if you had a cold that kept getting worse.

Fact #6. Dogs can be carriers of the virus, yet exhibit no symptoms of it themselves.

After boarding or daycare, if your pet displays symptoms such as coughing, sneezing, or a runny nose, but still has a good appetite, he most likely is suffering from a cold. You can try treating the cold just as you treat your own cold: extra rest, lots of liquids and over-the-counter cough remedies but without acetaminophen.

We take the health and well-being of all pets seriously. If you think your pet has Canine Cough after staying with us, please let us know immediately. We will follow up with your vet and other local veterinarians. As professionals, we need to be on top of anything new in our area that may be contagious. Doing this allows us to communicate correctly and in a timely manner with our customers.

What We Do to Protect Your Pets

Here at All American Pet Resorts Fort Myers, we do all we can to prevent the spread of the Bordetella virus, including requiring the Bordetella vaccine for all guests, recirculating and exchanging facility air multiple times per hour, and performing rigorous cleaning protocols.

What Else Can You Do?

To protect your pet further, we recommend that you exercise caution when visiting dog parks and doggie events where unvaccinated pets may frequent. We also request that if your pet is displaying any of the symptoms detailed above, you consider keeping him home until the illness is over. That action is for the well-being of your pet, as well as the other guests at the resort.

We hope that you've found the information in this quarter's newsletter helpful! For more information on your pet's health, and to reserve his boarding stay, give us a call at (239) 939-3647 or [click here to visit our website](#). We look forward to hearing from you!

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