



PARVOVIRUS IN DOGS

What is Parvovirus and how would my puppy get this disease?

Parvovirus is a viral disease that we see most commonly in unvaccinated puppies and young dogs that causes severe bloody diarrhea and vomiting. It is spread by direct contact with another contagious dog or feces or exposure to a contaminated environment. Parvovirus can cause your puppy to die. The virus can also contaminate kennel surfaces, food and water bowls, collars, leashes, and the hands and clothing of people who handle infected dogs. The virus is very resistant to environmental factors and can live for years in the outdoors.

How do I keep my puppy from getting Parvovirus?

Parvovirus can easily be prevented by vaccination and good hygiene. All puppies should start receiving their vaccines between 6-8 weeks of age. Puppies should be kept away from areas where other contagious dogs may have been, for instance, parks or rivers until they have received all of their puppy shots around 14-16 weeks of age. Any sick puppy should be isolated immediately. All adult dogs should receive regular vaccinations to prevent Parvo.