



What is Kennel Cough?

Kennel Cough, clinically called Canine Infectious Respiratory Complex (CIRDC) is a highly contagious, disease, generally caused by either the virus Canine Parainfluenza Virus or bacteria Bordetella Bronchiseptica. Similar to that of a common cold, Kennel Cough can vary in severity based on individual cases. Diagnostics performed by a registered veterinarian can provide confirmation of the infectious agent, as well as appropriate treatment and prevention.

What are the symptoms?

If your greyhound displays any of the following symptoms, seek immediate veterinarian consultation:

- Runny Nose
- Loss of Appetite
- Runny Eyes
- Lack of Energy/Lethargy
- Sneezing
- Fever
- Dry, Forceful Cough

How do they get it?

As a rule, transmission is through droplets in the air (aerosols) from coughing or sneezing of an infected dog to a healthy dog (like most flu's). Symptoms can take 5-7 days to appear, hence biosecurity precautions are important.

The following factors may cause a greyhound to be at a greater risk of catching kennel cough:

- Poorly ventilated kennels
- Cold temperatures
- Exposure to dust or cigarette smoke
- Travel-induced stress

What do I do if I suspect my greyhounds has Kennel Cough?

Due to the likelihood of RAPID progression through kennels, early recognitions and action will be the make or break when preventing healthy greyhounds from becoming infected. Isolation facilities on a property must be utilised at the first instance of symptoms, with close monitoring during all stages of the disease. Please refer to pages 20-21 of the GRSA AW policy regarding biosecurity and diseases.

Contact your veterinarian for diagnosis and treatment. They will generally give you more information on how to manage the disease, including treatment, isolation/quarantine and vaccination options for the affected greyhound(s) and any other dogs on your property. Please inform GRSA in the first instance your veterinarian has confirmed the nature of the infectious agent under GAR40 – Reportable Disease.

How do I protect my greyhounds from Kennel Cough?

The best method of prevention/protection is to ensure your greyhounds vaccination history is up to date. Vaccinations can be obtained as an injectable, intranasal or oral forms. The industry regulated C5 Vaccination covers the main diseases associated with Kennel Cough.

