

## **Regarding Kennel Cough**

Kennel Cough is a term used to describe a complex of infections, both bacterial and viral, that causes inflammation to a dog's voice box and windpipe. It's a form of bronchitis and is like a chest cold in humans. Though it is rare, serious cases left untreated can lead to pneumonia.

### **Kennel Cough usually clears up on its own but is highly contagious to other dogs.**

The primary symptom is persistent dry "honking" cough. In most cases appetite level won't change but don't be alarmed if your pet coughs up a white foamy phlegm. These symptoms are often worse with excitement, after exercise, or pulling against their collar. Some dogs may also develop a fever and nasal discharge. If you suspect your dog has Kennel Cough immediately isolate him/her from all other dogs and call your veterinarian.

Dogs can catch kennel cough in several ways: It can spread through the air, directly from dog to dog, or through germ contaminated objects. Dogs that are in frequent contact with other dogs, younger/older and/or unvaccinated dogs are also at increased risk.

Most kennels including Casa de Amigos Animal Hotel will not board your pet without proof of vaccinations against Bordetella and Parainfluenza, two of the main causes of Kennel Cough.

### **Vaccinations against Kennel Cough are not 100% protective.**

Dogs vaccinated against Kennel Cough are less likely to contract the infection and will generally have less severe symptoms. Symptoms usually resolve in 2-3 weeks even without treatment, though antibiotics and/or cough suppressants may be recommended. Younger, older, and immunosuppressed pets may take a longer period to recover. Dogs may continue to be contagious to other dogs for several weeks following resolution of symptoms.

**Your pet may not return to our facility until 30 days after the last observed symptom to avoid the risk of infecting other pets.**

Please contact your veterinarian for more information and detailed advise.

I have read the document "Regarding Kennel Cough" and acknowledge and understand that cases of kennel cough can occur even in vaccinated animals.

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