

LEPTOSPIROSIS:
CLOSER THAN
YOU THINK?

WHAT

IS LEPTOSPIROSIS?

Commonly called *Lepto*

Leptospirosis is a severe bacterial infection transmitted by animals such as:



RACCOONS

RODENTS

SKUNKS

FOXES



HOW CAN MY DOG BE INFECTED?

Places where you or your dog are more likely to come into contact with *Leptospira* bacteria include:

- puddles
- standing pools of water
- ponds
- ditches

The bacteria survives in the environment in warm, temperate conditions such as during the late summer and autumn.

IT IS TRANSMITTED THROUGH CONTACT WITH INFECTED URINE OF CARRIER SPECIES, SO WHEN YOUR DOG IS DRINKING FROM THAT PUDDLE OR SNIFFING IN MOIST SOIL, HE OR SHE MAY BE AT RISK.

WHAT ARE THE

SIGNS?



At the beginning,
dogs may have signs similar to:

**FLU
FEVER
VOMITING
JOINT PAIN
LETHARGY
ANOREXIA**

When it gets **more severe**,
it can lead to frequent:

- urination
- blood in the urine or stool
- dehydration
- jaundice
- kidney failure

**THAT IS
PROBABLY
WHY WE
CALL TORONTO
THE “RACCOON
CAPITAL OF
THE WORLD”!**

**I LIVE IN A CITY
OR SUBURBAN AREA.
IS IT LESS RISKY
FOR MY DOG?**

Absolutely not!

As a consequence of the growing urbanization of rural areas (urban sprawl), there is **an increase in the number of wildlife species carrying leptospirosis closer to our homes** and they have adapted to our urban environment with ease.

Raccoons and rodents (rats and mice) have adapted particularly well to living in cities.



Leptospirosis can cause serious illness
and **can be fatal** if not treated.



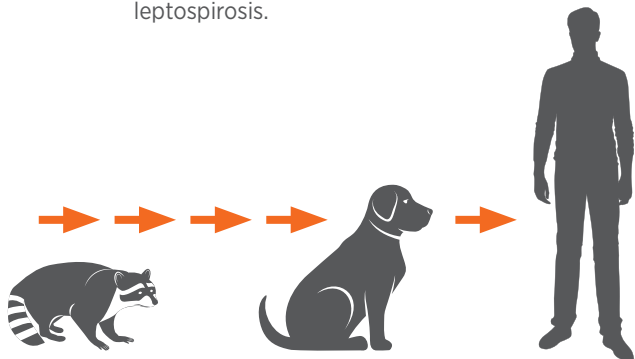


IS MY FAMILY AT RISK?

Leptospirosis is a zoonotic disease, meaning that it can be transmitted from animals to humans.

If your dog has been diagnosed with leptospirosis, proper precautions should be taken when handling your dog, especially urine.

Your veterinarian can provide additional details on how to safely prevent your human family members from getting leptospirosis.



IS THERE

ANYTHING
I CAN DO

TO PREVENT MY DOG FROM GETTING
LEPTOSPIROSIS?



Luckily, you can prevent leptospirosis in your dog with a vaccine from your veterinarian!

Vaccinating your dog provides the best protection against leptospirosis with year-round protection against the disease.

YOUR VETERINARIAN WILL RECOMMEND THE BEST OPTION BASED ON WHERE YOU LIVE AND YOUR DOG'S LIFESTYLE.

VANGUARD®

Vanguard L4 from Zoetis was developed to prevent this disease, **ask your veterinarian for more information!**

**If you think that your dog has leptospirosis,
contact your veterinarian.**

There are tests available that can confirm
the presence of leptospirosis in your dog,
such as the Witness® Lepto test from Zoetis.

**TAKE THIS SURVEY TO FIND OUT YOUR DOG'S
RISK FACTORS:**

	YES	NO
1 Does your dog have access to any standing water? (e.g., lakes, ponds, slow moving rivers)	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
2 Does your dog roam rural areas or new residential developments near woods or farmland?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
3 Do you live in an urban area where rats, raccoons and skunks exist?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
4 Do you live near an area that accumulates water after heavy rainfall?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>
5 Do you kennel your dog?	<input type="checkbox"/>	<input type="checkbox"/>

**IF YOU ANSWERED YES TO ANY OF THESE
QUESTIONS, SEE YOUR VETERINARIAN.**



REMEMBER:
it is **much easier**
to prevent the
disease than to
diagnose and
treat a sick dog!