



## Update on Canine respiratory disease

Dear Mountainside Family,

We are aware of reports that have been in the news about an increase in canine respiratory disease in some parts of the country, most notably in Oregon. We are following these developments closely and will continue to provide our clients with up-to-date scientific information and recommendations to keep your dogs as safe as possible.

**Canine Infectious Respiratory disease complex (CIRDC)** is characterized by lethargy, coughing, sneezing, sometimes fever and loss of appetite. There are many bacteria and viruses that can be the culprit; and we have vaccinations for only a few. Close dog to dog contact for a prolonged period causes the fastest spread of disease; so, dog parks, doggie day care, and boarding kennels are often where outbreaks are reported. Dogs can be very mildly ill, or the disease can progress rapidly to pneumonia in some cases. If your dog is showing any of the above symptoms, call us immediately so we can start treatment and run any appropriate tests or xrays. It is unknown as of right now if these reported outbreaks are truly a new disease; or clusters of affected dogs that have contracted one of the many known causes of respiratory diseases.

Prevention is always best medicine, so we advise that you take the following precautions for your dog:

Limit your dog's contacts, especially contact with dogs of unknown health status.

Keep your dog away from sick dogs.

If *your* dog is sick, keep it away from other dogs.

Talk to our Veterinarians at Mountainside about vaccination against canine parainfluenza, Bordatella Bronchiseptica ("kennel cough") and canine influenza.

**\*\*Good news; we now have the Canine flu vaccination available!**