



[pawPRINTS]

OCTOBER/NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2017

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CANINE INFLUENZA

Canine Influenza (“dog flu”) has been in the news recently following the positive testing of a few dogs in Maricopa County. This has resulted in significant interest in the disease, as well as increasing questions and concerns from pet owners who have dogs with social lifestyles, including those that visit dog parks, attend doggy daycare, or participate in sporting or show events. To help ensure you have the information you need to help protect the health and well-being of your dog, as well as other pets you may have in your household, please consider this as a helpful “need to know” guide.

Canine Influenza is a relatively new disease and can be caused by two different viral strains, H3N8 and H3N2. Both strains of this virus cause respiratory disease in dogs. Affected dogs may develop coughing, nasal discharge, fever, lethargy, and loss of appetite. The signs of infection can resemble those of other well-known respiratory diseases in dogs like Kennel Cough and Valley Fever. With proper medical attention, most dogs will recover just fine. However, in some cases, canine influenza can progress to a more severe condition called pneumonia. Similar to the hu-

man flu, the canine flu does not have a specific antidote or treatment. In most cases, the virus simply needs to run its course with special attention given to supportive care and preventing secondary bacterial infections.

It can be spread easily by direct contact with infected dogs (sniffing, licking, nuzzling), through the air (coughing, sneezing, or barking), and contact with contaminated objects such as bowls, toys, and clothing. Thankfully, there is no evidence that either strain of the Virus can be transmitted to people.

So what should you do? Don’t panic. While there are likely dogs that have gone undiagnosed, we’re still talking about a very small number of dogs nationwide and even smaller number here in Arizona. The best way to protect your dog is to prevent exposure. This may mean that you temporarily avoid social settings with your dogs. Environments such as doggy day care centers, open-play boarding facilities, groomers, dog parks, dog shows, apartment building common areas and the like can be particularly risky. A vaccine has been recently developed but is not widely used at this time. The decision to vaccinate is largely based on an individual animal’s risk for exposure to the virus. Watch your dog(s) closely for symptoms. If seen, consult your veterinarian ASAP and be conscientious to avoid areas or facilities where dogs can be exposed to the virus.

CANINE INFLUENZA

SYMPTOMS TO LOOK OUT FOR:

- COUGH
- SNEEZE
- RUNNY NOSE
- NASAL DISCHARGE
- LOSS OF APPETITE
- LETHARGY
- FEVER



Holiday Hazards

FOR YOUR PETS

FOODS

CHOCOLATE
The severity of chocolate toxicity depends on the size of the pet and the quantity and type of chocolate ingested (i.e. dark and baking (i.e. dark and baking chocolates are more toxic than milk chocolate).

GRAPES & RAISINS
Some dogs tend to be more sensitive to the toxic effects of grapes and raisins and even a small amount can cause a problem leading to kidney failure.

MEATS
Consumption of meats that contain excess fat can cause pancreatitis in some pets - a severe medical condition. Bones also have the potential to cause choking, intestinal obstruction or perforation if ingested.

XYLITOL
Xylitol is a sweetener found in many sugar-free gums and candies. It can cause a life-threatening decrease in blood sugar and liver failure if ingested.

NUTS
Most nuts are not necessarily toxic to dogs, but moldy nuts can contain harmful mycotoxins. Macadamia nuts and black walnuts are specifically toxic to dogs.

PLANTS

POINSETTIA
While many people think poinsettias are the most dangerous holiday plant for our pets, they are actually only mildly toxic. Dog and cats may develop an upset stomach or drooling due to oral irritation, but ingestion rarely requires any medical attention.

LILIES
Lilies, on the other hand, are one of the most dangerous flowers for our furry friends as ingestion of even a small amount can lead to kidney failure in cats! It is therefore recommended to avoid having these flowers in your home all year long.

HOLLY
Ingestion of holly leaves and berries can lead to gastrointestinal upset. The prickly nature of the leaves can also cause mechanical irritation to the oral cavity and esophagus.

MISTLETOE
Ingestion of mistletoe can cause intestinal upset and potentially severe cardiovascular problems if a large amount is consumed.

CHRISTMAS TREE
Pine needles can be toxic to a pet if ingested. Bacteria, mold and chemicals found in Christmas tree stands can cause illness even if small amounts are consumed.

DECORATIONS

TINSEL & RIBBON
Tinsel, ribbon and other string-like material can lead to serious complications including choking and intestinal obstruction if swallowed.

ORNAMENTS
Ornaments can also cause choking or intestinal obstruction if ingested. If your pet eats a sharp or broken piece of an ornament or other decoration, it can cut the lining of their mouth, esophagus or intestine, leading to potentially serious complications.

SNOW GLOBES & BUBBLE LIGHTS
Exposure to the liquid inside these popular decorations can cause gastrointestinal upset and lethargy as well as skin and ocular irritation. Some snow globes may also contain antifreeze, which can be very toxic to dogs and cats if ingested.

HEALTH CERTIFICATES

If your pet is traveling outside of Arizona, you will need to look into Health Certificate requirements. The requirements set forth by each state and country will often vary. Additionally, depending on the form of travel, additional requirements, such as airline carriers, may be imposed. Generally, health certificates must be issued within 10 days of travel. This will involve your pet coming in for an exam, and the veterinarian providing you with a signed health certificate indicating that all necessary vaccines are current and that your pet has a clean bill of health. Please make sure when making the appointment (within 10 days of travel), that you also bring with you the address of where the pet will be traveling to.



The APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) website is a good source for information. You may visit the APHIS (Animal and Plant Health Inspection Service) website at <https://www.aphis.usda.gov/aphis/pet-travel> for information on both domestic and international travel. **Please be aware that we do not do international health certificates.** If you plan on traveling out of the country, feel free to contact us for other vet clinics that do provide this service.

Also, please note that there are new guidelines for traveling to Mexico. A different health certificate, which requires all the information to be typed, is needed when crossing the border.

Talkin' Turkey: 5 Festive Foes for Fido

1 Fat from meats
Think: Turkey skin, pan drippings
Can cause: Pancreatitis

2 Bones
Think: Turkey bones, carcass
Can cause: Choking, intestinal obstruction

3 Nutmeg
Think: Pumpkin pie, spiced desserts
Can cause: Toxicity resulting in death

4 Alcohol
Think: Wine, desserts with alcohol
Can cause: Seizures, respiratory failure

5 Pecans
Think: Pecan pie, pecan desserts
Can cause: Upset stomach, seizures

Pet Halloween Costume Contest

Post a photo of your pet in their best costume on our Facebook page.

[Facebook.com/AllCreaturesClinic](https://www.facebook.com/AllCreaturesClinic)

A winner will be chosen on Friday, November 3rd.

The winner will receive a \$25 credit on their account!



CLINIC NOTES

- ◆ We would like to welcome several new staff members to the All Creatures family. Alex and Ashley have been added to the front office staff. Erin, Kinley and Jillian are the newest technician additions.
- ◆ While we do our best to accommodate your needs, please make sure that if you want multiple pets to be seen, please specify this at the time of booking the appointment. This will allow us to set aside the adequate amount of time for your appointment. If extra pets are brought in without being scheduled, they will need to be rescheduled for a different day when time allows. The vets and staff truly appreciate your cooperation with this matter.
- ◆ We now offer online booking on allcreaturesanimalcl.com for annual exams and vaccines. When booking an appointment, please make sure you use the same name and phone number that we currently have in our system. If your pet is having a medical issue (i.e. vomiting, limping, wound, etc) or emergency, please call the office so that you can be scheduled appropriately.

HOLIDAY FOOD DRIVE



December 1 - December 30

Help us in helping the needy pets throughout the community, by donating pet food during the holiday season.

Bring in at least 10 cans or 1 bag of pet food and receive a \$10 credit on your account!*

**Limit one \$10 credit per account*

- ◆ It is our policy to require 24 hour notice on all medication refills. Please be aware of when your pet is nearing the end of their supply, so that we can be alerted in time to prevent any lapse in medications. If you need a refill from a secondary source (i.e. compounding pharmacy, PetMeds, Walgreens), please contact them. They will fax us a request which the doctor will review and fax back at the earliest convenience (within 24 hours). Additionally, please make sure you pay attention to prescription labels for reminders of lab work or rechecks required before the next refill. Your understanding and cooperation with this matter is appreciated.

OUR HOLIDAY HOURS

Thursday, November 23: CLOSED

Saturday, December 23: CLOSED

Monday, December 25: CLOSED

Saturday, December 30: CLOSED

Monday, January 1: CLOSED

For 24 hour emergencies during the holidays, please contact VetMed at 602-697-4694.

October/November Specials

**\$50 off bloodwork
Total Health Plus with Urinalysis panel
(Original \$248.96)**

\$50 off a dental cleaning
Make sure you book your dental early, as spots fill up quickly!

**The Doctors and Staff at All Creatures wish
you and your furry family a wonderful holiday
season!**

Dr. Ingram, Dr. Roberts, Dr. Bob, Dr. Hooper

Alee, Alex, Ashley, Carrie, Charlotte, Christine, Ellen, Erin, Jenell, Jenn,

Jillian, Kinley, Michelle, Sammy