

Vaccination against Leptospirosis

Every dog's vaccine protocol is structured based on their individual lifestyle and risk exposure. In Oakville, dogs are exposed to both an urban and rural lifestyle. Our dogs are exposed to disease carried by other dogs but also diseases spread by wildlife. At Mac Animal Clinic we advise that all dogs are vaccinated against Leptospirosis.

What is Leptospirosis?

Leptospirosis is a deadly bacterial disease spread by wildlife.

In the past, raccoons have been considered the major carriers of Leptospirosis. Recent studies have shown that the raccoon is not alone, other species such as skunks, beavers, coyotes and rodents are also known to be carriers. Local internal medicine specialists have confirmed the presence of Leptospirosis is rising in Southern Ontario.



Does your dog go outdoors?



Do you have wildlife in your area?

How is my dog exposed?

Dogs become infected when they come into contact with fresh urine from infected carrier animals. Don't forget, these little critters are around all year. Leptospirosis doesn't hibernate.

Infection occurs when dogs wade through or drink from contaminated water sources. This is why we tend to see an increase in the disease in the wetter months.



Is my dog at risk?

- Does your dog go outdoors?
- Does your dog drink from or wade in standing water, ponds or lakes?
- Is your dog exposed to areas where wildlife has been?
- Does your dog go to dog parks or day care?
- Do you live in a newly developed area or near farmland or woods?
- Has Lepto been diagnosed in your area in dogs or people?



Does your dog drink from or play in standing water?



Do you live in a newly developed area?

Leptospirosis is a disease that can affect humans. Infected pet dogs have the potential to spread this disease to their human family members.

It is very difficult to prevent exposure to Leptospirosis, every dog that ventures outdoors is at risk. Vaccination is an affordable and effective way to protect your dog from a disease that can be very difficult and costly to treat.

If your dog has not had the Leptospirosis vaccine they will need an initial vaccination and a booster 2-4 weeks later. After this initial set of vaccines, your dog will require annual Leptospirosis vaccination.

If you have any questions about Leptospirosis or to book an appointment please call 905-844-6786

