

Leptospirosis is a threat in all 50 US States¹

Leptospirosis is a bacteria that can be transmitted from many wildlife (including squirrels, rabbits, rodents, raccoons, deer, horses, and pigs) and other dogs via environmental contamination (ie, yards, puddles, sidewalks, parks, lakes, etc).¹⁻⁴

Leptospirosis is:

- Difficult to diagnose due to vague symptoms & can cause permanent kidney damage or death¹
- Can infect dogs of any age or breed & frequently infects small-breed dogs¹
- Is documented in both moist & arid environments¹
- A significant risk to dogs spending any time outdoors (urban, suburban, and rural locations), in kennels or daycares¹

It is hard to prevent dogs from becoming infected if leptospirosis is present in their environment. Vaccination is recommended for all dogs to help protect them from this deadly disease.¹



Protect Your Dog

All dogs should receive **4-serovar leptospirosis vaccination** as part of their core vaccine preventative care¹



Vanguard Lepto vaccines are safe and effective, backed by the Zoetis Petcare Immunization Support Guarantee

References

1. 2022 AAHA Canine Vaccination Guidelines (2024 Update). Available at <https://www.aaha.org/resources/2022-aaha-canine-vaccination-guidelines/>.
2. Bharti AR, Nally JE, Ricaldi JN, et al. Leptospirosis: a zoonotic disease of global importance. *Lancet Infect Dis.* 2003;3(12):757-771.
3. Dirsmith K, VanDalen K, Fry T, Charles B, VerCauteren K, Duncan C. Leptospirosis in fox squirrels (*Sciurus niger*) of Larimer County, Colorado, USA. *J Wildl Dis.* 2013;49(3):641-645.
4. Richardson DJ, Gauthier JL. A serosurvey of leptospirosis in Connecticut peridomestic wildlife. *Vector Borne Zoonotic Dis.* 2003;3(4):187-193.
5. Green CE, Sykes JE, et al. Leptospirosis. In: Greene CE, ed. *Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat.* 5th ed. W.B. Saunders; 2021:802-823. <https://doi.org/10.1016/B978-0-323-50934-3.00068-9>.
6. Schuller S, Francey T, Hartmann K, et al. European consensus statement on leptospirosis in dogs and cats. *J Small Anim Pract.* 2015;56(3):159-179.
7. Sykes JE, et al., Updated ACVIM consensus statement on leptospirosis in dogs. *J Vet Intern Med.* 2023; 37(6): 1966-1982. doi:10.1111/jvim.16903.

All trademarks are the property of Zoetis Services LLC or a related company or a licensor unless otherwise noted.
©2025 Zoetis Services LLC. All rights reserved. SAB-00632R3

zoetis

VANGUARD

GET THE FACTS ABOUT LEPTOSPIROSIS



AAHA and ACVIM recommend all dogs be vaccinated against leptospirosis annually^{1,7}

Bacteria is found in environment

Leptospira bacteria are spread through the urine of infected dogs and wild animals.

Your dog can become infected by drinking, swimming in or walking through contaminated environments including sidewalks, yards, and standing water. *Leptospira* bacteria can enter the bloodstream through a cut in the skin or through mucous membranes (such as eyes, nose or mouth).



Leptospira can survive for long periods of time in water and wet soil.



From rural to urban, every dog is vulnerable.

Risks for dogs and your family

Apparently healthy but infected dogs can transmit lepto to other dogs and humans.

Common risk factors include:^{1,5}

- Being outdoors
- Contact with infected animal urine on ground, sidewalks, or other areas
- Drinking from natural water sources
- Direct contact with infected animals



Prevention is preferred

Infected dogs may show vague or no symptoms, including:

- Fever
- Loss of appetite
- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Jaundice
- Dehydration
- Weakness
- Depression
- Lethargy

Treatment for leptospirosis can be costly and extensive, and range from antibiotics or oxygen support to plasma transfusions and dialysis. Dogs treated too late, or left undiagnosed, can experience permanent kidney damage or death.⁵⁻⁷



Ask your veterinarian if your dog has been vaccinated against leptospirosis, and if not, get them vaccinated today.