# **Canine Parvovirus**

### KNOW THE SIGNS

Canine Parvovirus (commonly known as Parvo) is a highly contagious virus that affects dogs' gastrointestinal tracts. The virus can affect all dogs, but unvaccinated dogs and puppies younger than four months are the most at risk.

#### HOW IT'S SPREAD

Coming into contact with:

- Other dogs
- Environments
- People
- Faeces

#### SYMPTOMS

- · Smelly bloody diarrhoea
- Vomiting
- Fever
- Lethargic
- · Rapid weight loss



Most deaths
from parvovirus
occur within 48
to 72 hours
following the
onset of clinical
signs

#### **PREVENTION**

- · Vaccinating your dog is the best way to help prevent canine parvovirus infection.
- Puppies should not socialise with other dogs until they have completed their entire vaccination course.
- Avoid public places where dogs are exercised.

## **Protect your Puppy:**

- → Make sure they receive ALL 3 rounds of vaccinations on time.
- → KEEP FOUR OFF THE FLOOR:
  - ◆ Parvo is mainly spread through the pads of their feet as this virus lives on the ground, in the dirt, grass, etc.
  - ◆ Parks, sidewalks, pet stores, etc. are dangerous places.
  - ◆ Feces left behind by unvaccinated dogs is the singular route of transmission, leaving this virus in our environment.
  - ◆ Locations visited by unknown dogs are the most dangerous, as they may be carrying the Puppy Parvo virus without having any symptoms themselves.
- → Carry, push or pack your puppy during your many socialization adventures.
- → No walking in public until they receive their final round of puppy shots at 4 months old.
- → Seek veterinary care IMMEDIATELY if you suspect your puppy could be ill.
  - Showing 2 or more symptoms above at the same time is definitely cause for concern.