

Canine Influenza Vaccination Frequently Asked Questions

Are there different strains of canine influenza?

Yes, there are two known strains of canine influenza virus: H3N8 and H3N2. Vaccines are available to provide protection against both strains.

What kinds of vaccines are available?

There are both monovalent and bivalent vaccines available for canine influenza. The bivalent vaccine provides protection against two strains of canine influenza (H3N8 and H3N2). The monovalent vaccines are effective against a single strain at a time.

How many doses does my dog need?

Most canine influenza vaccines require two doses weeks apart. Consult your veterinarian for a specific regimen tailored to your dog.

Why should I vaccinate my dog against canine influenza?

Vaccinating your dog against canine influenza helps protect them from the virus, reduces the risk of infection, and minimizes the severity and duration of symptoms if your dog does contract the disease.

Is the canine influenza vaccine safe for dogs?

Yes, the canine influenza vaccine is considered safe for dogs. Talk to your veterinarian about any potential side effects or concerns specific to your dog.

Can my dog still get canine influenza if they are vaccinated?

While vaccination significantly reduces the risk of infection and minimizes the severity of symptoms, it does not guarantee complete immunity. However, vaccinated dogs generally have a milder illness if they do contract canine influenza.

Where can I get my dog vaccinated against canine influenza?

Your veterinarian.

What else can I do in addition to vaccinating my dog?

Practice good hygiene including regular handwashing, avoiding contact with sick dogs, disinfecting commonly shared surfaces, and keeping your dog away from crowded or high-risk areas.