



## CANINE GASTROINTESTINAL CORONAVIRUS

### ABOUT THE DISEASE

The **canine gastrointestinal coronavirus (CRCoV-1)** is a Group-1 coronavirus which is **NOT** related to the Group-2 coronavirus (CRCoV-2) which causes respiratory symptoms. Please see the [Canine Coronavirus – Respiratory](#) document for additional information.

**CRCoV-1** is a highly contagious intestinal disease that can be found in dogs all around the world but is generally considered to be a relatively mild disease with sporadic symptoms, or none at all. If symptoms develop, they may include vomiting, unwillingness to eat (anorexia), lethargy, and high-volume diarrhea.

If a **CRCoV-1** infection occurs along with parvovirus, the consequences are often much more serious and can even lead to death. Please see the [Canine Parvoviral Enteritis](#) document for additional information.

The most common source of **CRCoV-1** is exposure to feces from an infected dog. Viral shedding may continue for up to six months. Stress caused by over-intensive training, over-crowding, and generally unsanitary conditions increase a dog's susceptibility to **CRCoV-1**.

A vaccine is available but is usually reserved for dogs and puppies that enter high-risk environments like frequently attending dog shows and visiting high volume dog kennels or day cares.

### OBTAINING A DIAGNOSIS

A reference laboratory test is available for **CRCoV-1**, which uses fecal matter to identify the virus. However, the test takes 5-7 days to complete which is not always clinically feasible.

### TREATMENT

Young canine patients are often treated more aggressively, as their compromised immune system may place them at greater risk for fatal complications. Their treatment is often focused on maintaining hydration, preventing vomiting, minimizing diarrhea, and treating any other concurrent disease that may be present.

Most adult dogs will recover on their own without the need for intervention.

### TIPS FOR SUCCESS

- Vaccinate at-risk patients.
- Aggressively treat younger patients.
- Quarantine any suspected patients from kennels and public areas for as long as possible.