



To Our Valued Clients:

You have probably heard about the new **upper respiratory** illness on the news or from friends. Over the past several weeks, we have noticed a significant increase in **upper respiratory** cases among our canine patients. Current cases have been more severe than previous years. They are lasting longer, are requiring extended treatment, and pose an increased risk for pneumonia development. For this reason, please exercise caution for all, especially our senior or immune compromised pups, when considering daycare/boarding or high volume socialization activity.

Clinical signs to monitor for:

- Dry/hacking cough (primary clinical sign)
- Sneezing, eye discharge (with/without mucous)
- Lethargy
- Labored/efforted breathing
- Decreased appetite

Here are some precautions you can take to minimize the risk:

**Evaluate Necessity:** Consider whether it's possible to reduce your pet's daycare or boarding needs temporarily. Perhaps shorter playdates or modified schedules can help maintain their socialization without overexposing them.

**Vaccination Updates:** Ensure that your pet's vaccinations are up to date. Regular check-ups with your veterinarian are essential for maintaining their health.

**Sanitary Practices:** Promote good hygiene by cleaning and disinfecting your pet's belongings and living spaces. Regularly washing their toys, bedding, and feeding dishes can help reduce the spread of infections.

**Communication:** If you're concerned about the health status of other dogs in the daycare or boarding facility, don't hesitate to inquire about their health screening and safety measures with the service provider.

Please stay vigilant and take all necessary precautions to protect the health of your furry family members during the upcoming holiday season.