

INFLUENZA

What you need to know

Answers to Commonly Asked Questions and Tips for At-Home Care

What is it?

Most commonly referred to as “the flu”, influenza is a viral zoonotic infection that attacks your respiratory system — the nose, throat and lungs.

Mode of transmission



RESPIRATORY
DROPLETS

Tips for at-home care

- ✓ **Vaccinate!**
- ✓ Routinely disinfect your dog’s favorite toys, areas of the home, food and water bowls, and launder blankets/clothing.
- ✓ Do not let your pet come in to contact with unknown animals or other pets.
- ✓ If you are ill with a respiratory infection, avoid cuddling your pet by your face.

Common FAQs

Can I get the flu from my dog?

While it may be possible, there have not been any documented cases of a dog transmitting influenza to a human.

How long does the flu survive on surfaces?

Influenza can survive on skin and hands for 12 hours, on clothing for 24 hours and on surfaces for up to 48 hours.

Can my cat get it from my dog?

Yes, but it is very rare. If your dog is diagnosed with influenza, ask your veterinarian about vaccinating your cat. Whenever a pet has a respiratory infection, it is best to isolate them from other pets in the home to avoid any spread of illness.