

Pathogenesis of Canine Parvovirus

Day 1

Ingestion of minimal amount of infectious Parvovirus

Day 2

Viral replication in oropharynx and then spread via bloodstream to lymph nodes, bone marrow, and intestine

Enormous amount of viral shedding in the feces begins

Day 3

Marked viremia usually, but not always, manifested by intestinal disease

Day 4

Day 5

Clinical signs begin 4–10 days after exposure. Some dogs can continue to shed the virus 3 weeks after onset of clinical signs.

Day 6

Possible shedding of non-infective Parvovirus due to vaccination with modified live Parvovirus vaccine 4–10 days previously; false-positive ELISA possible

Day 7

Amount of Parvovirus being shed by an infected dog begins to decline 6–10 days post infection; chance of false-negative ELISA possible.

Day 8

Day 9

Day 10

Day 11

Day 12

After day 12, the virus is rarely recovered in the feces.

“Only up to 50 percent of patients present with bloody diarrhea and not all patients show characteristic changes in the leukogram... Diagnostic testing is therefore, warranted in all patients with signs of systemic gastroenteritis with unknown etiology.”

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“Use diagnostics to help confirm parvo”

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