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
- **Day 3**: Enormous amount of viral shedding in the feces begins
- **Day 4**: Marked viremia usually, but not always, manifested by intestinal disease
- **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 8-10**: Clinical signs
- **Day 11-12**: 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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