

Philadelphia Pet Hotel & Villas

Bordetella Policy Update

PPH&V Customers,

The Pet Hotel requires Bordetella to be administered every 6 months. Any dog entering our building for grooming, daycare, or boarding will be held to the same vaccination standard. The Pet Hotel will only perform Bordetella Vaccinations on dogs that have received a Bordetella no later than 7 months prior to the desired entry date into the hotel. Dogs that have not had a Bordetella within 7 months of the desired entry date into the hotel will need to have the shot given minimum two weeks before the dog is scheduled to enter the building.

Any client who wishes to have the Bordetella vaccine administered within the hotel will be a required to sign a waiver.

Things to keep in mind about Kennel Cough:

- *The Bordetella Vaccine is only effective at inoculating 3 out of the 8 known strains of the virus. The vaccine provides inoculation from the 3 most virulent strains.*
- *Kennel Cough has a 2-5 day incubation period.*
- *Keep in mind that a vaccine is never a 100% guarantee that your baby will not develop symptoms of Kennel Cough or an upper respiratory tract infection. Many factors influence a dog's ability to fight off a cold or infection, including stress due to change of environment, general physical health, prior vaccination history, exposure levels, extreme changes in humidity and temperature, etc.*
- *Kennel Cough is a bacterial infection and upper respiratory tract infections can present themselves as both viral and bacterial infections. Most dogs that experience viral upper respiratory infections are easily remedied by letting nature run its course. Often times the dog's immune system is able to ward off the virus.*
- *Viral upper respiratory infections are extremely contagious and cannot be prevented with a vaccine. Nose to nose contact or being in the blast radius (generally 15 feet or less) of an infected dog is all it takes to spread either Kennel Cough or an upper respiratory tract infection.*
- *Older, younger, and immunocompromised dogs are most at risk for infection. It is especially imperative that these owners take all necessary precautions in order to ensure a healthy boarding experience.*

- *The most minor signs of Kennel Cough include coughing usually described as a dry hacking, or even as severe as gagging, and expulsion of white foamy liquid.*
- *The more serious signs of Kennel Cough include: loss of appetite, lethargy, and nasal discharge. Consult your veterinarian immediately if any of these signs are exhibited. Additionally it is imperative that you notify hotel staff so that we may take the necessary precautions in order to ensure the safety and welfare of new inhabitants entering our building.*

What does Philadelphia Pet Hotel & Villas do to ensure my child's safety?

1. *All dogs that enter our building must receive the Bordetella vaccine every six months.*
2. *When we suspect that a dog is exhibiting signs and symptoms of either an upper respiratory tract infection or Kennel Cough that dog is immediately separated from the rest of the boarding and daycare dogs and is not allowed to re-enter group play until the dog is cleared by one of our veterinarians.*
3. *Our building is set-up with individual heating, cooling, and ventilation units for each of our Kennel runs. This is very advantageous in the event of a known case; we are able to contain and minimize the threat of an outbreak.*
4. *Our entire building is sanitized every evening by our 24HR. kennel staff that is on-site. In addition to providing supervision, love, and of our course your baby's midnight stroll their role is vital in disease prevention by ensuring the deep clean process of our building **always** remains intact.*
5. *We restrict all dogs with known cases of Kennel Cough from entering the building until 14 days after their last cough or 14 days after the final dose of medication has been given.*
6. *We offer pet insurance for \$4/day, which provides health protection exclusively granted by the Philadelphia Animal Hospital up to \$500/stay. This insurance plan also covers your pet for Kennel Cough or Upper Respiratory Tract Infections for up to 3 days after your baby leaves our facility.*