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LEISHMANIOSIS / DOG OWNER INFO / UK EDITION

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Canine leishmaniosis - a deadly disease.

Canine leishmaniosis is caused by a parasitic infection, which is transmitted between dogs by the bites of infected sandflies, often wrongly referred to as mosquitoes. If your dog is infected with the parasite, symptoms may not show immediately. Signs to look for include fever, hair loss (particularly around the eyes), weight loss, skin sores and nail problems. Internal organs are also affected, which can lead to anaemia, arthritis, and severe kidney failure.

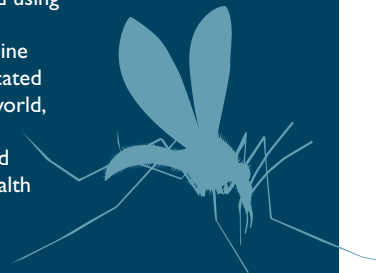


This disease is often deadly and expensive treatments can only control the symptoms, but not cure the disease. There are 2.5 million dogs in Europe already infected with this parasite. Sandflies also transmit this deadly infection from dogs to humans, therefore control is of utmost importance.

Sandflies are widespread and can be found in many habitats in Southern Europe (plus parts of Asia and Central & South America). Regions and countries bordering the Mediterranean basin are of particularly high risk for dogs (especially Portugal, Greece and many parts of Spain, Italy and Southern France). See figure 1.

FAQ

What can I do for my dog? So far, preventive methods against canine leishmaniosis have been limited to reducing the habitat of these mosquito-like insects, minimising the physical contact of dogs with sandflies and using insecticides on dogs. Despite the availability of these measures, canine leishmaniosis has not been eradicated in Europe. In some areas of the world, such as Brazil, a strategy of compulsory euthanasia of infected dogs has been tried for public health reasons.



The first vaccine against canine leishmaniosis is available.

After 20 years of cutting-edge research by high-level scientists, including state-of-the-art vaccination technology¹, a vaccine against canine leishmaniosis is available. With vaccination, it is possible to provide your dog with a new level of protection against canine leishmaniosis.

The full vaccine course involves three injections given at three-week intervals and provides your dog with a long-term internal defence against the symptoms of the infection.

Only one annual re-vaccination is needed to maintain the immune defence of your dog against canine leishmaniosis.



FAQ

Can all dogs be vaccinated? Vaccination can be performed in most dogs over six months old which are free from infectious diseases, including canine leishmaniosis.

How can I get more information about the vaccine? Ask your vet about vaccinating your dog now!

I use collars/sprays/spot-ons against sandflies, do I still need this vaccination? Vaccination is recommended as even during correct use, none of these topical products are able to completely prevent all sandfly bites².

Prevention is the best protection!



Many dogs in Southern Europe are under permanent risk of developing canine leishmaniosis; a disease that is now spreading North. Vaccinating your dog means that their immune system will be harnessed to enhance its resistance. Vaccination against canine leishmaniosis can give your dog a new level of protection.

Ask your vet today about the best, individual protection management against canine leishmaniosis.

FAQ

Why is re-vaccination important? Like most vaccines, the immune system needs regular reminders, or specific activation against an infection. The full vaccine course, including one annual re-vaccination, ensures that your dog has a long-term internal defence against this disease.

What is the best time to start vaccination? There is no particular season for vaccinating your dog against canine leishmaniosis. If you live in Southern Europe then you should vaccinate your dog as soon as possible. If you live in other parts of Europe and you intend to travel with your dog to a region where canine leishmaniosis is prevalent, then you should inform your vet immediately so that the vaccination can be started early enough.



Travelling Abroad? Is Your Dog Safe?

“Mosquito”-like insects transmit potentially deadly infection

Now a Vaccine for Your Dog Against a Deadly Disease!

Researchers create the first vaccine in Europe against canine leishmaniosis

After 20 years of cutting-edge research by high-level scientists, including state-of-the-art vaccination technology¹, a vaccine against canine leishmaniosis is now available in Europe.

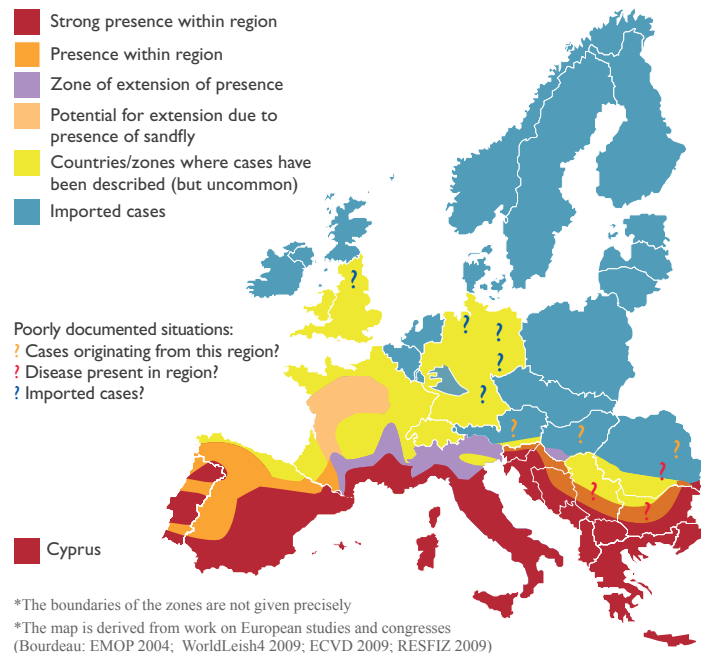
When taken as a course, this vaccine can provide safe, effective and long-lasting protection of your dog from developing the symptoms of leishmaniosis. It is a long awaited vaccine solution, now available in veterinary practices!



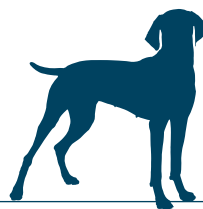
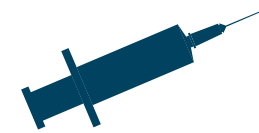
Canine leishmaniosis is transmitted by sandflies. Dogs may suffer fever, hair loss, weight loss, skin sores, nail problems, anaemia, arthritis and severe kidney failure, even death. There is no cure. In Europe 2.5 million dogs are infected.

Figure 1 Canine leishmaniosis in Europe (Pr. P. BOURDEAU Original)

(Courtesy Prof P. Bourdeau) shows the current broad situation in Europe.



For 20 years scientists have been working on state-of-the-art vaccination technology to protect dogs from infection with this deadly parasite. Now a vaccine against canine leishmaniosis is available for the first time in Europe.



Vaccinating your dog with the new vaccine means that your dog's own immune system resistance to canine leishmaniosis is enhanced.

References

1. CaniLeish[®] vaccine was developed by BVT (BioVeto Test), a wholly-owned subsidiary of Virbac, in partnership with IRD Institut de Recherche pour le Developpement, and Virbac's R&D teams. This project is based on an IRD's patented invention relating to Leishmania culture, on which IRD has granted an exclusive patent licence to BVT for animal health applications. 2. Alvar J, Canavate C, Molina R, et al. Canine leishmaniosis. Adv. Parasitol., 2004; 57: 1-88.



Photo: Frederic Decamps

Protect your dog. Vaccinate now.



Protect your dog. Vaccinate now.

Ask your vet about vaccination against canine leishmaniosis.

Passionate about animal health



Protect your dog. Vaccinate now.

