



80%
MORTALITY RATE
FOR PUPPIES WHO
BECOME INFECTED
WITH
DISTEMPER¹

50%
MORTALITY RATE
FOR ADULT DOGS
WHO BECOME
INFECTED WITH
DISTEMPER¹



FRIDAY FACTS FROM BARRIO DOGS

► CORE VACCINES FOR DOGS

Thousands of dogs die each year from parvo, distemper and other diseases. Houston, with its large numbers of roaming and homeless animals, is especially hard hit. The best tools for preventing these deadly diseases are vaccinations, education and awareness. Please help us spread the word!

Core vaccines are considered vital to all pets because of the risk of exposure, severity of the disease and transmissibility to humans. Core vaccines include vaccines for canine distemper, parvovirus, hepatitis and rabies. **Non-core vaccines**, including vaccines against bordetella, lyme disease and leptospirosis, are given depending on exposure to the risk. Check with your vet to determine which vaccines are necessary for your dog.

- **Canine distemper** is a highly contagious virus transmitted through the air by coughing and by bodily secretions like urine. Dogs can get it at any age but puppies less than 6 months old are most at risk. Common signs are nasal and eye discharge, coughing, diarrhea, vomiting, fever and seizures.
- **Canine parvovirus** is a highly contagious viral infection that can be transmitted by contact with an infected dog's feces. The virus can survive for months on inanimate objects like food bowls, floors, shoes, etc. Most cases involve puppies 6 weeks to 6 months old, but it can occur in older dogs. Symptoms include vomiting, diarrhea, weight loss and lack of appetite.
- **Infectious canine hepatitis (adenovirus)** is a virus found in dog feces and saliva that causes fever, vomiting, and diarrhea. In recent years, it has become uncommon in areas where routine vaccinations are given. Consumption of urine, feces, or saliva from infected dogs is the most common cause of infection.
- **Canine rabies** is a virus that infects the brain and spinal column. It's primarily passed to dogs through a bite from an infected animal. It can also be transmitted through a scratch or when infected saliva makes contact with mucous membranes or an open, fresh wound. The risk runs highest if your pet is exposed to wild animals.

Pictured above: Foster, a puppy rescued by Barrio Dogs in 2013 who had distemper when he was rescued and died soon thereafter.

(1) <https://cwhl.vet.cornell.edu/disease/canine-distemper>

SOURCES: [HTTPS://WWW.ASPCA.ORG/PET-CARE/GENERAL-PET-CARE/VACCINATIONS-YOUR-PET](https://www.aspc.org/pet-care/general-pet-care/vaccinations-your-pet)