



TOWN & COUNTRY
VETERINARY HOSPITAL

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September 22, 2011

Dear Town & Country Friends,

We, at Town & Country Veterinary Hospital, are dedicated to the prevention and treatment of disease in your family's pets. Due to the emergence of the Canine Influenza Virus H3N8 (CIV) in San Antonio, we are now offering the new CIV vaccine to our canine patients.

As reported on September 14, 2011 by KENS 5 TV, there has been a recent outbreak in San Antonio of this highly contagious, airborne virus. Alarming, 20% of CIV infected dogs can develop a severe respiratory pneumonia resulting in a mortality rate of up to 8% overall. Some dogs infected with CIV may show no clinical signs and still spread the virus. Others may develop coughing, sneezing with nasal discharge, and fever. Vaccination is the best protection.

Starting November 14, 2011, all dogs scheduled to be boarded or groomed at Town & Country (T&C) will be required to complete the CIV vaccine series. The CIV vaccination protocol requires an initial vaccine followed by a booster in 3 weeks. For your pet's protection, this vaccination series should be completed at least 1 week prior to your pet being exposed to a kennel or play group environment. Puppies 8 weeks and older should be vaccinated.

As with all of our injectable vaccines, an exam by a veterinarian is required before administration of the CIV vaccine. This is to ensure your pet is healthy enough to be vaccinated. For those T&C patients who need only the CIV vaccine and have had an annual wellness exam within the last 12 months, the examination fee will be waived for both the initial and booster vaccinations until December 31, 2011. The price of each CIV vaccination will be \$25.

Do not wait to vaccinate your dog. To prepare for Thanksgiving holiday boarding and grooming, I recommend starting the vaccination series no later than October 24, 2011. Please call us today to schedule an appointment.

Robert Spillers, DVM