Managing Canine Leptospirosis
Diagnosis, Treatment, and Prevention

**Leptospirosis** (Lepto), an infectious bacteria found in the infected urine of wild animals and rodents, affects dogs and is transmissible to humans. Lepto becomes a concern when dogs come into contact with infected water. Standing water including ponds, puddles and muddy dog parks, as well as rivers, lakes and streams can harbor Lepto.

Leptospires can spread throughout the entire body, and reproduce in the liver, kidneys, central nervous system, eyes, and reproductive systems.

There have been more reports of canine Leptospirosis not only in traditional geographic areas like the East and Midwest, but also in areas not normally characterized as Lepto endemic, like Arizona and California, and in urban areas as well as suburban and rural. It’s a good time to be vigilant when confronted with clinical signs common between other diseases and Lepto, and include Lepto on your list of suspects.
**PREVENTION**

**Vaccinate**
After the infection has been cleared, vaccination should be considered to prevent future infections since a clearing of infection is not assurance of immunity. It would be prudent that other dogs with similar risk profiles in the practice also be vaccinated. Fortunately, there are several excellent vaccine options against the 4 leading Lepto serovars (Icterohaemorrhagiae, Canicola, Pomona, and Grippotyphosa.) The duration of immunity for these vaccines is known to be approximately 12 months, and they are effective in reducing disease and disease severity, and in some cases they may reduce virus shedding in the urine.

**Lepto Vaccines**

- Nobivac® Lepto4
- Nobivac® DAPPv+ L4
- Vanguard® L4
- Vanguard® Plus 5 L4
- Vanguard® Plus 5 L4 CV
- ULTRA™ Duramune® 4L
- ULTRA™ Duramune® DAP + 4L
- Recombitek® 4 Lepto
- Recombitek® C7
- Recombitek® C8
- Nobivac® DAPPv+ L4

**Buy 5 trays, get 1 tray FREE (mix and match)!**

Counts towards the Advance Vaccine Program.

Counts towards the PerPETual Loyalty Program.

Counts towards the MyZoetisRewards Program.

Counts towards the Clinic Growth Rebate Program.

Counts towards the PerPETual Loyalty Program.

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Please contact your Henry Schein Animal Health Representative to help put together your comprehensive Lepto management program.