Canine Parvovirus in Dogs - Epidemiology Update

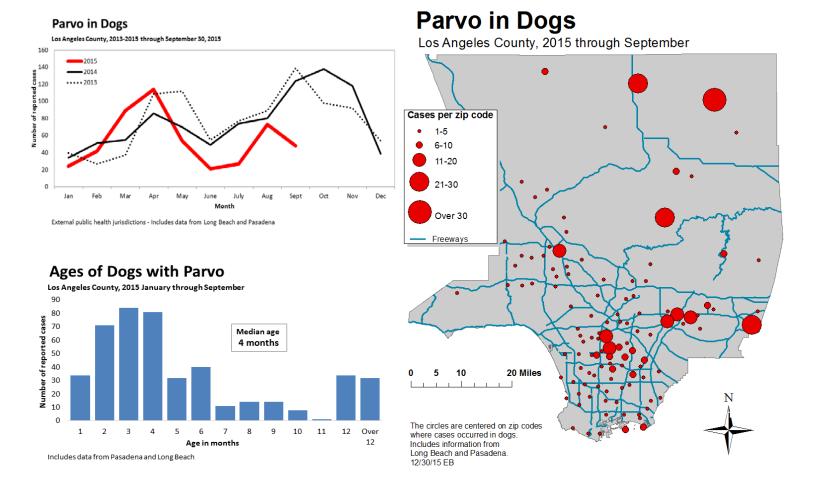
Canine Parvovirus (Parvo) in Dogs in Los Angeles County

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In the third quarter of 2015, 148 new cases were reported, for total of 492 cases so far in 2015. The majority (86%) were confirmed by testing and the rest were suspected. The median age was 4 months. Significantly more cases (623) were reported in the same period in 2014. Cases have continued to exhibit a seasonal trend, with a peak occurring in the springtime and then decreasing in early summer.

Most reports (75%) were from animal shelters. Of the cases diagnosed in shelters, the vast majority (92%) were infected in the community before intake, not in the shelter.

The city of Lancaster has had the most cases so far in 2015, with 13% of the total. Historically, cases have clustered in the Antelope Valley, Lynwood, Compton, Pacoima, and Wilmington.



Why does Public Health Track Canine Parvovirus in dogs?

Canine parvovirus does not make people sick. However, parvo cases in dogs serve as markers for areas where access to veterinary services is lower. Vaccination against parvo in dogs is a core part of basic veterinary care. Veterinary professionals play a significant role in protecting the public's health work by preventing, detecting and treating zoonotic diseases in animals (reducing risk of spread to people), educating the public on animal bite prevention, and encouraging a healthy lifestyle (such as preventing dog and human obesity through encouragement of dog walking). Read more - <u>publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/parvo.htm</u>

Report parvo cases

Veterinary practices - <u>publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/docs/Forms/ParvoTrackingSheet_vet.pdf</u> Animal Shelters - publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/docs/Forms/ParvoTrackingSheet_shelter.pdf

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