

Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-pei Rescue Operation

Non-Profit, Tax Exempt

Dedicated to the
rehabilitation
and adoption
of purebred
Chinese
Shar Pei

Quarterly Newsletter

August, 2010

Volume XL

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RESCUES & ADOPTIONS since April 2010 – below is an updated list of our rescues and adoptions since our last newsletter in March. Those listed with an “*” next to them are dogs that are still available for adoption. All our dogs are spayed or neutered prior to adoption (health/age permitting); have been heart worm tested; parasite tested and have all necessary shots.

Please - **if you have an email address please let us know**. We need to go electronic on our newsletters due to the prohibitive cost of printing. We are happy to mail the newsletter to those who don't have an email address, but would appreciate people calling us or dropping us a line to let us know they still need the newsletter mailed.

383 – 09 *China is still with us she has never quite recovered from her dogfight which required over 400 stitches. She is quite shy of people and has become the little kennel dog at Debendale.

393 – 09 Déjà has been adopted and has gone to Upper Marlboro MD to live with a gentleman in his big house and be an only dog.

399 – 10 Moe has found a forever home in Temple Hills with a lady who takes him everywhere with her.

400 – 10 *Robin is still with us. She attended the dog fest at the fairgrounds in Timonium Maryland and got along with all of the people and dogs that she met there. We are at a loss to understand why she has not been adopted as yet.

402 – 10 Peaches came into us from the Montgomery County Humane Society. She soon found a home in Shadyside Maryland and has become part of the family which includes Nemo the Shar-Pei.

403 – 10 Ava came from Bedford County Humane Society in Pennsylvania. She is a black mini Pei who arrived with a number of problems. Her previous owners had let her nails grow into her pads so walking was painful. She has had entropion surgery and is suffering with a number of intestinal problems. She is currently in a foster home and full recovery is expected.

404 – 10 Flower is a fawn black meat mouth female currently in Greenville County South Carolina. She has severe entropion in both eyes. We have been waiting for transportation to get her to us so we can start medical treatment on her. She's very young, shy and loving. She should be readily adoptable when her eyes are fixed.

405 – 10 *Brando came to us from BARCS in Baltimore, Maryland. He was neutered, and a tooth removed and other medical work done before it was discovered that he had K9 influenza. He had to be placed in quarantine and ended up in the vacant apartment over Debendale Kennel which he thinks is the coolest thing in the world. He is a handsome boy who's grandmother must have a met a lab somewhere along the way.

As you can see from the above medical issues we have encountered a great deal of expenses and we want to thank all of the kind souls who donate and continue to donate to our rescue work.

Recent events

We are now registered to go to both PetSmart and PetCo on adoption days. Nina Ghanam and Jeanne Johnson took some of our dogs to a PetSmart adoption Day in Westminster, MD.

We attended the Montgomery County dog festival and got rained on!

We attended the Timonium Dog Fest with three dogs and lots of help from Maureen and Jason Tankersley, Jeanne and Brian Johnson, Deb and Alan May and Joyce Hanes.

Anyone who would like to volunteer to take dogs to these adoption Days at PetCo or PetSmart should contact us.

A Pet's 10 Commandments

(Source unknown)

1. My life is likely to last 10 to 15 years. Any separation from you is likely to be painful.
2. Give me time to understand what you want of me.
3. Place your trust in me. It is crucial for my well-being.
4. Don't be angry with me for a long and don't lock me up as punishment you have your work, your friends, your entertainment, but I have only you.
5. Talk to me. Even if I don't understand your words, I do understand your voice when speaking to me.
6. Being aware that however you treat me I will never forget it.
7. Before you hit me, before you strike me, remember that I could hurt you and yet I choose not to bite you.
8. Before you scold me for being lazy or uncooperative, ask yourself if something might be bothering me. Perhaps I'm not getting the right food, I have been in the sun too long, or my heart might be getting old and weak.
9. Please take care of me when I grow old. You too will grow old.
10. On the ultimate difficult journey, go with me please. Never say you can't bear to watch. Don't make me face this alone. Everything is easier for me if you are there because I love you so.
Take a moment today to be thankful for your pets. Enjoy and take care of them. Life would be a much duller less joyful experience without them.

Health Articles

Resuscitation (CPR and Rescue Breathing)

CPR is the method used to treat a dog that is not breathing or has no heartbeat.

It consists of rescue breathing (also called mouth to nose/ mouth resuscitation) and Chest compressions. CPR is based on three basic principles, called the ABCs of CPR.

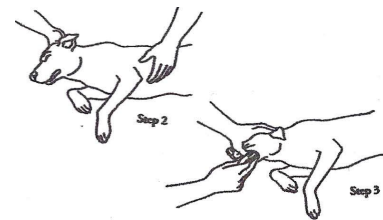
You must follow the ABC order (Airway, Breathing and Circulation) when Attempting CPR.

A = Airway

Does the dog have an open airway? (The airway is the passage the dog breathes through. Check to see if the throat and mouth are clear of foreign objects.)

If the answer is YES, go to *Breathing*. If the answer is NO, you need to open the Airway. Do the following:

1. Lay the dog down, on either side.
2. Gently tilt the head slightly back to extend the neck and head.
3. Pull the tongue between the front teeth.
4. Use your finger to check for and remove any foreign material or vomit from the mouth.



B = Breathing

Is the dog breathing? If the answer is YES, allow the dog to assume the body position most comfortable for them. Then, move on to *Circulation*. If the answer is NO, do the following:

1. Open the airway.
2. For medium and large dogs, seal the mouth and lips by placing your hands around the lips, gently holding the muzzle closed. For small dogs (less than 30



pounds), your mouth will seal the mouth and lips.

3. Place your mouth over the dog's nose and forcefully exhale.

4. Give four or five breaths rapidly, and then check to see if your pet is breathing without assistance. If the dog begins to breathe, but the breathing is shallow and irregular, or if breathing does not begin, continue artificial respiration until you reach the veterinary hospital or for a maximum of 20 minutes. (Beyond 20 minutes there is little chance of reviving your dog.)



Use the following breathing rates:

- Small dog (under 30 pounds) 20-30 breaths per minute.
- Medium or large dog (over 30 pounds): 20 breaths per minute.

C = Circulation

Is there a heartbeat or a pulse? If the answer is NO, perform chest compressions. Do the following:

Small Dog (Under 30 Pounds)

1. Lay your dog down, on the animal's right side.
2. Kneel next to your dog with the animal's chest facing you.
3. Place the palm of one your hands over the ribs at the point where the elbow touches the chest. Place your other hand underneath the right side of the animal.
4. Compress the chest ~1 inch (your elbows should be softly locked during Compressions).
5. Chest compressions are alternated with breaths.
6. If working alone, do five compressions for each breath, and then check for a pulse.
7. If there are two people, one person does the breathing while the other does the compressions at a rate of three compressions for each breath, the check for a pulse.



Medium to Large Dog (30 to 90 Pounds)

1. Stand or kneel with the dogs back towards you.
2. Extend your arms at the elbows.
3. Cup your hands over each other.
4. Compress the chest at the point where the left elbow lies



when pulled back to the chest.

5. Compress so the chest moves about 1-3 inches with each compression.
6. If working alone, do five compressions for each breath, and then check pulse.
7. If there are two people, one person does the breathing while the other performs the compressions at a rate of two or three compressions for each breath, then check for a pulse.

Continue CPR until the dog has a strong heartbeat and pulse, or until you reach the veterinary hospital, or until 20 minutes have passed and your efforts have not been successful

CPR can be performed on the way to the veterinary hospital as long as there are at least two people present (one to drive).

CHOKING

Cause

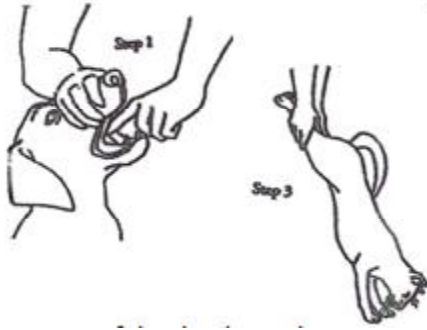
- Food, toy or other object stuck in the throat
- Ill animal choking on their own vomit
- Trauma to the neck or throat region
- Upper respiratory disease
- Tongue swelling due to an allergic reaction

Signs

- Dog stops breathing
- Struggling or gasping to breathe
- Loud breathing sounds
- Anxiousness
- Gums may be blue or white
- History of chewing or playing with objects such as rawhides and balls

First Aid

Use caution not to get bitten, especially if you work on a conscious or semi-conscious animal.



1. Open the mouth and carefully sweep from side to side with your finger to see if you can feel and dislodge the object. Be careful not push the object further into the throat or get bitten.

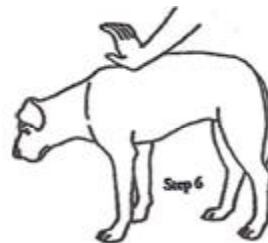
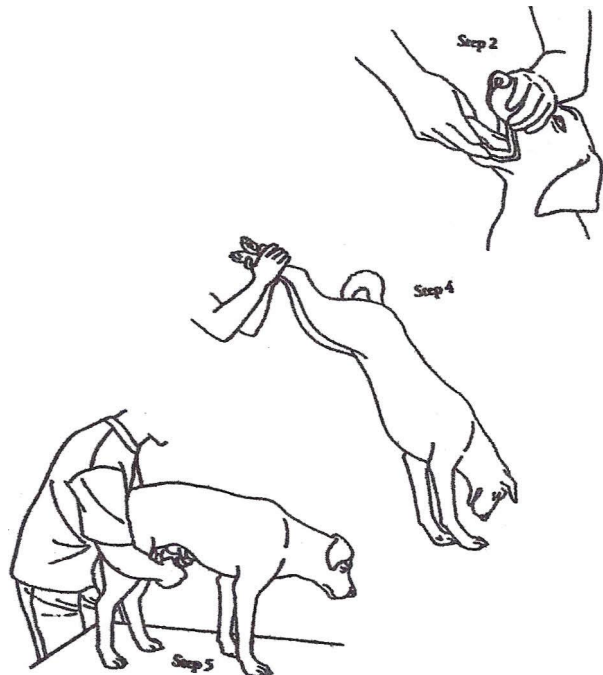
2. Pull the tongue out removing any object, vomit or foreign material present.
3. If the dog is small enough for you to comfortably lift and suspend, suspend the dog by the hips with the head hung down.
4. If the dog is too large to suspend, hold the dog's hind legs in the air (like a wheelbarrow) so the head hanging down.
5. If the object does not come out by doing ~ perform the following:

- Have the dog either stand or lie down.
- Place your arms around the dog's waist.
- Close your hands together to make a fist and place the fist just behind the last rib.
- Compress the abdomen by pushing up with this fist five times in a quick and rapid manner. (This is similar to the Heimlich maneuver commonly performed on humans to dislodge materials in the throat.)
- Perform rescue breathing for five breaths. Even a small amount of air getting past the foreign object will make this thrust maneuver more effective.

6. If this is not successful in dislodging the object, administer a "sharp blow" with the flat side of your hand between the shoulder blades, and then repeat the abdominal compressions.
7. Carefully sweep the mouth with your finger, to see if you can dislodge the object, if it has not come out on its own. Once the object is dislodged, stop the thrust, check for the ABCs, initiate CPR if needed and get the animal to a veterinary hospital at once.

Do Not attempt to place finger in the mouth of a dog that is growling.

If you feel that this information might one day be of use to you and your pet, please acknowledge our efforts by sending a donation to MACSPRO. We hope to be able to continue to provide you with helpful information for you and your pet. n



Canine Influenza Update

by Deborah Charsha-May, Ph.D.

Microbiologies/Virologist

MACSPRO recently had a rescue come in from Baltimore County who become lethargic, ran a fever, and started coughing. The dog was taken to a vet who, based on symptoms alone, diagnosed the dog with canine influenza. No tests were run to confirm this diagnosis. The dog was put into isolation for about 14 days and has since recovered.

What is Canine Influenza?

Canine influenza is a new emerging infectious disease caused by a "flu" virus. Canine influenza virus (CIV) is caused by a highly contagious infection caused by a novel influenza A subtype H3N8 virus first discovered in 2004 at a greyhound racetrack in Florida. The canine influenza virus has been classified as H3N8, based on the amino acid composition of the hemagglutinin (H) and neuraminidase (N) glycoproteins in the lipid outer layer of the capsid. Other strains of influenza A are responsible for causing infections in birds, horses, pigs, and people. Canine influenza virus has only been shown to affect dogs. It is thought that virtually every dog exposed to the virus will become infected because the virus is relatively new, and the dogs have no known natural immunity to the virus. Therefore, 100% of the dogs are susceptible to infection with this virus, and virtually all dogs will become infected with the virus.

About 80% of the dogs that are infected will become symptomatic. Those dogs that contract the disease but do not show signs of the disease can still spread the virus to other dogs. Furthermore, dogs are most infectious to other dogs during the two days immediately before they show symptoms of the illness; once symptoms begin, they can spread the flu to other dogs for a total of 7 – 10 days; after that, the infectivity of the virus decreases rapidly, even though they might show symptoms for a total of up to 21 days, depending on the severity of their illness. It takes this long for the lungs to fully recover from the illness.

Deaths occur mainly in dogs with the severe form of disease; the mortality rate is thought to be 1-5% or slightly higher. Higher case fatality rates have been reported in small groups of greyhounds that developed hemorrhagic pneumonia during outbreaks.

Fortunately, most dogs recover within two weeks, and CIV does not cause a permanent infection.

There have been numerous reports of influenza outbreaks in kennels, shelters, and veterinary clinics. Some of these

outbreaks have been traced back to one sick dog that spread the virus throughout the facility. CIV has been documented in over 30 states and in the District of Columbia.

Pathology and Clinical Signs

The canine influenza virus infects and replicates inside the cells of the respiratory tract, from the nasal lining to the terminal airways. The inflammatory response results in rhinitis, tracheitis, bronchitis and bronchiolitis. The pathologic process also involves the death of the epithelial cells lining the respiratory tract, resulting in exposure of the underlying basement membrane. This, in turn, predisposes the respiratory tract to secondary bacterial infections that contribute to the nasal discharge and coughing.

Like other mammalian influenza viruses, CIV causes an acute respiratory infection in dogs. However, unlike human influenza, CIV is not a "seasonal" flu – infections can occur year-round. Canine influenza virus causes clinical disease that mimics kennel cough. As a result, infection with the virus is frequently mistaken for infections caused by *Bordetella bronchiseptica* (bacterium) or parainfluenza virus.

Canine influenza is usually a mild illness but can be serious in some dogs. In about 20% of cases, more severe signs will occur, such as a high fever (104 – 106°F; 101 is normal for dogs) and pneumonia which the vet can detect by listening to the lungs. A small number of dogs that are infected have died from complications associated with the disease. The most common sign of a flu infection is a persistent cough. Some dogs have a soft, moist, productive cough, while others have a dry cough similar to that seen in dogs with kennel cough. In a mild disease the dog will have a low-grade fever, nasal discharge, lack of energy, loss of appetite, and a cough that can last for up to a month. Thoracic radiography (chest x-rays) may reveal consolidation of lung lobes.

How Canine Flu is Diagnosed

It is hard to diagnose canine influenza, and CIV cannot be diagnosed solely from clinical signs because the clinical signs (coughing, sneezing and nasal discharge) are similar to those associated with all of the other respiratory pathogens and cannot be differentiated from them. For example, it can be confused with kennel cough because the signs and symptoms are similar. The vet can collect a blood or nasal swab samples, but the lab tests may not confirm canine influenza if the samples are not taken at the appropriate time during the course of illness. The key for diagnosis may be awareness that your dog has been exposed to another dog that has canine influenza.

Vets have to confirm the diagnosis. We are also not sure if the current rapid human test which can test for Influenza A can be used for canine influenza although theoretically that is a possibility. Because the serological test is not usually readily available, diagnosis is usually a matter of evaluating the symptoms and ruling out other causes.

How is Canine Influenza Spread?

Canine influenza is spread the same way that human flu spreads – through direct contact (for example, licking or playing); through the air (coughing or sneezing); and via contact with contaminated surfaces (such as sharing toys, sharing water bowls, or when a person picks up the virus on their hands or clothing and touches and contaminates a surface or another animal).

Treatment for Canine Influenza

Because influenza is caused by a virus, antibiotics will not kill the virus (antibiotics are usually given, however, to keep down bacterial infections while the dog is in a weakened condition). There is currently no specific treatment for canine influenza. As with all viral illnesses, the disease must run its course. Supportive care such as a good diet and enough fluids can help the dog fight the infection.

Canine influenza (just like human influenza) can become complicated by secondary bacterial infections. A sign of this is a yellow-green, thick nasal discharge, which your veterinarian may treat with an antibiotic. The coughing that comes with the infection is the body's way of getting rid of the virus. The cough is moist and productive and you should not try to suppress it. Do not give human flu medicines to your dog because they have not been studied or approved for use with this illness in dogs and their safety and effectiveness are not known

Prevention and Control in Animal Care Facilities

In veterinary, boarding, and shelter facilities, the canine influenza virus appears to be easily killed by disinfectants commonly used in these facilities, such as quaternary ammonium compounds (e.g, benzalkonium chloride) and bleach solutions. Protocols should be established for thoroughly cleaning and disinfecting cages, bowls, and other surfaces between uses. The virus may persist in the environment for approximately 2 days, and be viable on hands and clothing for up to 24 hours.

Employees should wash their hands with soap and water:

- * Before and after handling each dog
- * After coming into contact with dogs' saliva, urine, feces, or blood

* After cleaning cages

* Upon arriving at and before leaving the facility.

This is also good practice for dog owners who have a dog that has been diagnosed with canine influenza.

Isolation protocols should be rigorously applied for dogs showing clinical signs of respiratory disease. Sick or exposed dogs should be isolated for two weeks. Clothing, equipment, surfaces, and hands should be cleaned and disinfected after exposure to dogs showing signs of respiratory disease. Dog owners whose dogs are coughing or exhibiting other signs of respiratory disease should not participate in activities or bring their dogs to facilities where other dogs can be exposed to the virus.

Protecting Your Dog from Canine Influenza

Keep your dog in good health. If the dog is a well-nourished, well-rested, and well-cared-for pet, its immune response will be stronger and help the dog fight the infection. When you board your dog, make sure that the facility is clean, well-maintained, and that there is an influenza outbreak management plan in place.

A new canine influenza vaccine was approved for us in the U.S. recently. The vaccine is marketed by Intervet/Schering-Plough Animal Health and has been shown to reduce the severity of influenza and the length of the time that the dog is sick. The initial vaccination requires 2 doses, 2 - 4 weeks apart, followed by annual revaccination. If your dog is presently being vaccinated for kennel cough (Bordetella), it might be a candidate for Canine Influenza Vaccine H3N8. Unfortunately, many veterinarians in the mid-Atlantic area do not yet carry the canine influenza vaccine.

Can Humans Catch Canine Influenza?

CIV represents a very rare event in adaptive evolution; the entire genome of the H3N8 equine (horse) influenza virus was transferred to dogs, and the virus adapted to the canine species to emerge as a new canine-specific virus. Although the virus spreads readily from dog to dog, there is no evidence at this time to support that it can be transmitted from dogs to humans.

The best practice is to treat a dog with the illness the same way you would treat another member of the family: keeping surfaces clean, avoiding contact with body fluids, washing hands, etc.

An excellent article can be found online from the American Veterinary Medical Association at:

http://www.avma.org/public_health/influenza/canine_bgnd.asp **n**



The Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-Pei Rescue Operation, Inc.

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Your MACSPRO membership for 2010 is due. It's the same low price of \$25.00

If you enjoy the various information available in the newsletters, please show your appreciation by sending in your contribution today. Thank you.

Contribution enclosed: _____

(You may pay by credit card via our web site: www.macspro.org) Thank you for your support.

Signature: _____ Date: _____

Mailing address: MACSPRO, P.O. BOX 34034, BETHESDA, MARYLAND 20827

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BETHESDA, MD 20827**

Wait! Inside there is a poster suitable for hanging anywhere you want to advertise our rescues.

“Our Gang”

Available for Adoption through the Mid-Atlantic Chinese Shar-Pei Rescue Operation
Website: www.macspro.org Phone: (301)881-1221



Ava



Stella



Robin



Brando

Adopt me now!