

# Are You Worried About Your Dog's Cough?

Then, this checklist is made for you, and your precious pet, Fido.<sup>1</sup>

Disclaimer<sup>2</sup>

I have made this checklist to help you sort out your dog's symptoms and determine both the severity and urgency for treatment and in some cases whether or not treatment is necessary at all.

Does he have a virus, bacteria or some other type of respiratory infection? Does his cough signal a heart condition? A weakness in his trachea? Could he have something caught in his throat? A cough could be caused by any one of these or a dozen other conditions!

The answers to the questions below will determine whether you can go to bed and sleep peacefully tonight or whether you need to make an immediate trip to Urgent Care!

## Let's Get Started!

Imagine that you and Fido are visiting my office. You both just seated yourselves in one of my comfortable examination rooms. You spot and begin reading a brochure about "Doggy Flu Vaccinations" because your Fido has been coughing and you are very worried about his condition.

As I enter the room....

**"Hello, I'm Bruce Bauersfeld, D.V.M. - But you can call me Dr. B..."**

Is how our conversation might start.

We would begin with a series of questions. You and Fido would provide the answers. I would provide the interpretation.

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<sup>1</sup> Yes, I know your dog's name is not *Fido*! But I just think that's a fantastic name and I've always wanted to name one of my own Bernese Mt. Dogs, *Fido*. But, since we have a magic theme for our breeding and exhibition program, I could never justify it. So, I'm fulfilling my childhood dreams by using the name *Fido* here. -- Thank you for humoring me! LOL - Dr. B...

<sup>2</sup> LEGAL DISCLAIMER: This document, and/or the resources it references, is not a substitute for a one-on-one in-person examination by a licensed veterinarian. It does not constitute, nor is it intended to constitute a *Veterinary Client Patient Relationship* (VCPR).

# Are You Worried About Your Pet's Cough?

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This is the type of information I would need to sort out Fido's Cough...

## Background Information:

- What age is your pet?
- What weight is your pet?
- What Breed is your pet?
- When was the last time your pet was vaccinated for Kennel Cough?
- When was the last time your pet was vaccinated for Bordetella?  
{Hint: The above two are the same thing.}
- When was the last time your dog was vaccinated for influenza, i.e. canine flu?  
{Hint: This is completely different from kennel cough and Bordetella vaccine}

## Patient Status:

- Is your pet drinking normally?
- Is your pet pooping normally?
- Is your pet eating normally?
- Does your pet have a fever?<sup>3</sup>  
If you are unable to take your pet's temperature, make your best guess!

## Between coughing episodes, how does your pet behave?.

- 100% normal.
- He never stops coughing.
- Quiet but only slightly depressed.
- Lethargic, inactive, quiet, depressed.
- I'm not sure - he *"just ain't doing right"*

## Current Concerns:

- Is your pet keeping you awake or keeping himself awake at night?
- Is your pet having difficulty breathing?
- Has your pet taken any medication in the last 36 hours?
- Has your pet taken any herbal supplements in the last 36 hours?
- Is your pet taking any form of CBD/THC or CBD alone?

## Coughing Description

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<sup>3</sup> The normal Canine and Feline Rectal Temperature is 101.0 to 102.5 F' \*\*\* CAUTION: If you are not familiar with the equipment, procedure, and/or technique of taking your pet's rectal temperature, DO NOT ATTEMPT THIS ON YOUR OWN?\*\*\*

Note: Human Otic (ear) thermometers are available at your local pharmacy. They are safe, but their output is often inconsistent.

## Are You Worried About Your Pet's Cough?

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- Does your pet wake up at night coughing?
- Are you worried that he has something stuck in his throat?
- Is your pet's cough productive?<sup>4</sup>
  - {that is: Does he bring any fluid, foam, spittum, or food up when he coughs?}
- Does your pet swallow immediately after he coughs?
- Is your pet's cough
  - Inspiratory ? -(Breathing IN)
  - Expiratory? - (Breathing OUT)

### Breathing Description

- Is your pet's breathing ...
  - Normal ?
  - Abnormal?
  - Not Sure?
- Is your pet's breathing Noisy?
- Is your pet's breathing Quiet?

Accurate answers to these questions could save your pet's life.

They can determine whether you can go to bed and sleep peacefully tonight or whether you need to make an immediate trip to Urgent Care!

Use them wisely as you prepare to talk to your Veterinarian either in person or via a telemedicine consultation.

I pray that this guide is helpful for you and your pet. And that he or she will live a long and pain-free life , and that you will become worry-free.

-Dr. B...

PS. Do you or your pet need more help? Find it here: <https://www.DrBsPetClub.com>  
or,

Do you or your pet need a more personalized experience? Or even a consult with Dr. B. <https://www.DrBsPetClub/consult> is your solution.

Thanks downloading  
Dr. B's comprehensive checklist to help you properly assess pet.  
He will be glad you did!

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<sup>4</sup> Does Fido bring up something and then *VIZIBLY* swallow - right after he coughs? Dogs and cats do not expectorate - they will not spit out what they cough up!