

# PAWS IN PARADISE

*Luxury Resort & Spa™*



**There are many different types of upper respiratory infections, including kennel cough, but CIRDC specifically is currently circulating in the CSRA.**

## **Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex (CIRDC)**

### **Disease Overview**

Canine Infectious Respiratory Disease Complex (CIRDC), also known as infectious tracheobronchitis or canine cough, is commonly seen where dogs are in close contact with each other. CIRDC is a highly contagious multifactorial disease characterized by acute or chronic inflammation of the trachea and bronchial airways.

### **CIRDC Fast Facts:**

- Concurrent infections with several viral and bacterial agents is common.
- Canine respiratory coronavirus and canine pneumovirus have also been implicated in CIRDC.

### **Clinical Signs:**

- Harsh, dry coughing fits
- Retching and gagging
- Possible partial anorexia

### **Morbidity Threats:**

- During the acute and subacute inflammatory stages, the air passages are filled with frothy, serous, or mucopurulent exudate.
- Development of more severe signs indicates bronchopneumonia or a complicating systemic infection: fever, nasal discharge, depression, anorexia, a productive cough
- Severe cases may progress to fatal bronchopneumonia in puppies or dogs infected with canine influenza virus.

### **Spreading Disease:**

- Direct contact (licking, nuzzling)
- Indirect contact (coughing or sneezing)
- Contaminated surfaces such as food or water bowls, cages, or human interaction

### **Diagnosis:**

- CIRDC should be suspected whenever the characteristic cough suddenly develops 5–10 days after exposure to other susceptible or affected dogs. Severity usually diminishes during the first 5 days, but the disease can persist for several weeks. The presumptive diagnosis of CIRDC is usually made from the history and clinical signs and by elimination of other causes of coughing.

**More information can be found online at <https://www.merck-animal-health-usa.com/nobivac/canine-infectious-respiratory-disease-complex-cirdc>.**