



# ILLNESS IDENTIFICATION FACT SHEET

At times greyhounds become unwell, and unfortunately sometimes participants don't recognise the signs or symptoms and treatment is delayed.



Delaying treatment can prolong illness, spread contagious disease, and result in your greyhound being unable to race for longer periods of time.

Early identification and rapid diagnosis, and treatment by your veterinarian, will hopefully reduce the length and severity of the illness, prevent disease spread and return your greyhound to fitness and racing sooner.

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*Knowing the normal appearance and behaviour of your greyhound is essential in helping you to recognise signs that something may be not right.*

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## HOW DO I KNOW IF MY GREYHOUND IS SICK?

While illnesses and their symptoms vary, some general common signs of illness include:

- lack of appetite;
- lethargy (more tired than usual);
- coat appears rough or fluffed up (can be a sign of fever);
- hair loss;
- coughing;
- discharge from nose and/or eyes;
- vomiting and/or diarrhea;
- belly is distended/swollen;
- urinating more or less frequently than normal;
- increased water consumption;
- performs poorly during training, trialling or racing;
- performance in second half of a race is poor, while first half was normal; and
- any changes in your greyhound's behaviour and habits.



## WHAT ARE SOME COMMON ILLNESSES?

There are number of illnesses that may occur in your greyhound. These include:

- skin conditions;
- gut upsets (vomiting and/or diarrhoea);
- Kennel Cough;
- worms;
- anaemia.



## WHEN SHOULD I SEEK VET ADVICE?

Unwell greyhounds may display one or more of these symptoms.

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*If you suspect your greyhound may be unwell, seek veterinary assistance as soon as possible.*

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*Treatment may be as simple as a few days of rest, a minor change to their diet or environment, but a veterinarian is best qualified to assess, diagnose and provide treatment options for your greyhound.*

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Some of the things that you should consider are:

- how sick is your greyhound?
- how long has your greyhound been sick?
- if not treated by a veterinarian, how long will your greyhound remain sick?
- what are your treatment options?
- are there any withholding periods associated with the treatment?
- what are the potential risks to other greyhounds if the illness is contagious?

