

Nobivac® L4



Suspected Adverse Reactions

Serious Adverse Events such as Hypersensitivity are classed as very rare (<1 in 10000) whereas mild reactions to all vaccinations are a normal response by the body's immune system and are seen very commonly (>1 in 10). You will be familiar with the feeling of being a little under the weather after a vaccine yourself and dogs are no different as their immune system is working to create the correct antibodies to protect them should they come into contact with the disease.

Most dogs show no signs, but as a part of this normal response, some dogs may show a mild increase in body temperature (≤ 1 °C) and some are slightly less active and/or have a reduced appetite for a few days following vaccination. You may also notice a small swelling at the site of vaccination, but this will usually disappear within 14 days of vaccination.

If you are ever concerned, we would always recommend you contact the clinic, so we can investigate, care for your VIP and provide you reassurance.



My puppy has a contract from the breeder stating it is not to be given Nobivac L4.

The contract you have received is not legally binding, as you are the registered owner of your puppy. Your local veterinarian will be best placed to give you specific medical and preventative healthcare advice most suited to your puppy based on them, their lifestyle, your family, local risks and the environment. The prescribing decision lies with the veterinary surgeon alone.

I have seen on social media that the L4 vaccine can kill dogs; is this true?

Just like with human vaccines, all animal vaccines must undergo rigorous safety studies before they are licensed for use, and this is no different for the Nobivac L4 vaccine, which is the most commonly used canine leptospirosis vaccine in the UK¹, and with over 100 million doses administered worldwide.

All medicines (including paracetamol!) have potential side effects, and these are listed on the datasheet which is updated based on information gathered after a medicine is available for use.

Your vet can discuss this with you, but in general, reactions are rare and the risk of your dog being affected by disease is much greater.

Why does my dog need 2 doses of Nobivac L4 four weeks apart?

It is very important that your dog comes back for their second vaccine on time in 4 weeks to ensure your dog has the best protection.

This is so their immune system is primed to work appropriately against leptospirosis. Thereafter they will have an annual booster vaccination to keep their protection topped up.

We used to get a different leptospirosis vaccine; why are you suggesting this one now?

Previously your dog may have been given a vaccine that covered two leptospirosis strains, but two additional strains of the disease which have been shown to cause disease in Europe and the UK. The World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) Vaccine Guidelines recommend all dogs are vaccinated against leptospirosis using vaccines that cover the strains found in that country². For the UK this is a recommendation to use a leptospirosis vaccine that covers more strains, such as Nobivac L4.



Is there really a risk of my dog catching leptospirosis?

Sometimes people think leptospirosis is only a risk in the countryside, but unfortunately, due to the way leptospirosis spreads, all dogs, regardless of lifestyle or breed, can be at risk.

Dogs can catch it through water (even puddles!), soil and food contaminated with infected urine from rodents. They can also catch it from bites from infected animals and even from their mothers during pregnancy.

It is tricky to work out exactly how many dogs catch leptospirosis each year as it has so many different possible clinical signs and is often underreported due to difficulties diagnosing and treating animals.

What we do know for sure is leptospirosis is a potentially fatal zoonotic disease which is widespread in the UK and prevention is better than cure. As it is impossible to avoid all potential sources of infection, the best way to provide your dog with protection is through vaccination.



CHOOSE THE LEADING LEPTOSPIROSIS VACCINE ¹.

Contact an MSD Animal Health representative to learn more.

Nobivac 
Protection unites us.

 **MSD**
Animal Health

¹ Based on a number of Nobivac L4 doses 2023, Kynetic VetTrak UK data | ² Squires, R.A., Crawford, C., Macconex, M. and Whitley, N. (2024). 2024 guidelines for the vaccination of dogs and cats – compiled by the Vaccination Guidelines Group (VGG) of the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA). *J Small Anim Pract*, 65: 277-316. <https://doi.org/10.1111/jasp.13718>

Nobivac[®] L4 is an inactivated bacterial vaccine containing the following inactivated *Leptospira* strains: *L. interrogans* serogroup Canicola serovar Portland-veik, *L. interrogans* serogroup Icterohaemorrhagiae serovar Copenhageni, *L. interrogans* serogroup Australis serovar Bratislava, *L. kirschneri* serogroup Grippotyphosa serovar Dadas. **POM-V**

Further advice should be sought from the medicine prescriber. For more information, refer to the SPC, datasheet or package leaflet. Prescription decisions are for the person issuing the prescription alone. **Use medicines responsibly.**

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