

# Parvovirus

December 20, 2021

**In news-** Nearly, 2,000 pets and stray dogs in Maharashtra's Amravati were infected with the Canine Parvovirus recently.

## **About Parvovirus-**

- Canine parvovirus (also referred to as CPV, CPV2, or parvo) is a **highly contagious viral disease that can also be life-threatening in puppies and dogs.**
- It **affects the gastrointestinal tract of canines** with puppies being more susceptible.
- Bloody diarrhoea, vomiting, drastic weight loss, dehydration and lethargy are some of the **symptoms.**
- The virus has reported a **90 percent mortality rate.**
- It **spreads through direct contact with an infected dog or by indirect contact with a contaminated object,** including the hands and clothing of people who handle infected dogs.
- The dogs can get exposed to the parvovirus every time it sniffs, licks, or consume infected faeces.
- **Indirect transmission** occurs when a person who has recently been exposed to an infected dog touches the puppy, or when a puppy encounters a contaminated object, like food or water bowl, collars and leashes.
- Parvo, **being a resistant virus, easily survives in the environment,** and anything can be contaminated with it, including leaves and grass.
- Parvovirus has **no cure** and inoculating a puppy or a dog gives them a fighting chance against the infection.
- The first dose is given at 45 days old and the second 21 days after the first dose.
- To properly protect canines, it is necessary to administer the vaccine to them while they are puppies and then continue to do the same every year.

