

# Chronic Dry Cough

**C**oughing occasionally is said to be very necessary because it helps in clearing the throat and airways. **Cough** can be either productive or dry. When a person has dry cough, he or she does not spit out phlegm which accompanies productive cough. When a person experiences bouts of dry cough, also known as unproductive cough, it can be said that he/she has chronic **dry cough**. Dry cough may start along with common cold, but if it stays for more than eight weeks, even after one is relieved of the cold, it can be said to be a dry cough. People who are chain smokers are also at a high risk of suffering from such cough. The cause of chronic cough cannot be restricted to only one factor. There are actually many causes that can act as a trigger for this problem.

- Viral as well as bacterial bronchitis can be acute as well as chronic.
- Acute bronchitis is severe and occurs suddenly.
- It can be treated effectively in a short time.
- On the other hand, chronic bronchitis develops over a period and is long-lasting.



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**Tight Chest and Shortness of Breath** Chest pain and breathing difficulty (known as dyspnea) do not always show an impending heart attack. Someone going through these types of symptoms may not be suffering from a cardiac problem. Although the signs and symptoms are mainly associated...

## Possible Human Health Risk Factors

Has been suggested that humans with a weak immune system (like babies and pregnant women) are more prone to contract respiratory infection from dogs with kennel cough. In case of children, who are more involved with pet dogs, chances of infection are very high. Another contention is that unlike viruses, bacteria that cause kennel cough are not species specific. So in case of dogs with kennel cough caused by bacteria like *Bordetella bronchiseptica*, there are chances of humans contracting respiratory problems from them. In fact, *Bordetella bronchiseptica* is closely related to the agent, which causes whooping cough in humans.

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