



*Golden Retriever  
Club of America®*

## **Health Reminder Ahead of the 2025 GRCA National Specialty**

We are once again hearing from owners whose dogs became ill after attending a dog show. This is a reminder that canine infectious respiratory disease (CIRD) can spread quickly at dog shows but many cases can be prevented. There are several different infectious agents that can cause CIRD. The Merck Animal Health online map of these agents indicates that this year cases of some agents are high in some states <https://www.dogflu.com/outbreak-map/>. Dogs will be traveling to the 2025 GRCA National from many states and we want them all to be healthy and stay that way. Please check with your regular veterinarian regarding whether your dog(s) may need anything in advance of your planned travel to the National, such as a canine influenza or kennel cough booster. Please also remember that it is a violation of AKC rules to have any dog with a communicable disease on the show grounds or premises (Section 9, Chapter 11 of Rules Applying to Dog Shows). In addition, if you have a dog exposed to an upper respiratory illness, please do not bring that dog but instead quarantine that dog. Above all, do not bring any dog with signs of respiratory illness to the show and quarantine any dog who has had symptoms of a respiratory illness as recommended by AKC and your veterinarian.

