***Let’s talk Diarrhea/tummy upset/loose stools***

So, you’ve gotten your new puppy home, are in a state of bliss, snuggles are happening left and right and that picture perfect image of that fluffy ball of love is well... perfect... almost... until that all too dreaded pile of diarrhea shows up. Your new puppy has an upset stomach and loose stools are in full force. Transitioning to a new home is stressful for new puppies and there are unfortunately many things that cause upset to a wee tummy in this time. This is common, you are not alone. Fear not, I have you covered. Let’s get started...

Parasites are everywhere.

They live inside every animal that walks barefooted, eats off the ground, eats dirt (whether on purpose or chews on a dirty toy), or drinks water that has been sitting outside for any length of time. Parasites work quickly and effectively, and they are very good at what they do.

Puppies are still building their immune systems, so they are more susceptible to damage and infection from parasites. The most common damage done is to the digestive tract, since that is where the most common parasites call 'home'.

I have a very rigorous deworming protocol in place to ensure that all my pups here are parasite free while in my care. I run a fecal test on pups before they go home and make sure they are clear of everything and anything.

Once puppy leaves my care, it is now your responsibility to control what he is and is not exposed to.

Talk to your vet about the right de worming protocol for you, there are a lot of different products that cover all sorts of parasites. Simparica, Simparica Trio, Nexgard, Revolution & Bravecto just to name a few. We here use Pyrantel Pamoate and Safeguard (fenbendazole) multiple times before pups are 8 wks. old and I ensure you they will be parasite free the day they go home to you.

Keep in mind most deworming products do not cover Coccidia or Giardia. We do run an extended length of Fenbendazole to try to rule out Giardia. These parasites are species of protozoa. Coccidia and Giardia are everywhere, you cannot avoid them. Giardia usually lurks in water, and coccidia most often hunkers down in the soil. Traditional disinfectants won’t kill these tough protozoa. So, I recommend always having a good cleaning regimen in place to keep these nasty parasites at bay. Rescue Vet Spray or F-10 Disinfectants are 2 great products for this.

[F10 Veterinary Grade Disinfectant](https://www.amazon.com/F10SC-Veterinary-Disinfectant-200ml-Vivariums/dp/B004FG803E/ref=sr_1_4?crid=49RBC8QT4GDM&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.ph_VpoB1JtrB3sfFEPZeC72HiXOemA2S1qkGePoN2joDAfhKtFbO2DITtCSeLMmiUq5EllRuy5MIuP-I7kySg_qQL0yHqmyL9wkIVK5vgwqnMowlGVTEHPSOB3FG8OToSKrJiSfvSMyMDb4haGUIlfoD8jlw42N0EJhdQxJ2f8skbaKNQ87ks2J0K36qeagn4GrqcqSBWM9yVsqNwR8pWVNi1ti6HBUAGmlKr5TxbhhMKm2hcEXJ0edgCGXSApJaXs0OLZpMgSP43X1Qdn1uKUdS1efOxsMIZykIeD_G88w.ZzE5ypgdfDAcR5JKBxzwepIREqkyB63VzDfMiL1uaQw&dib_tag=se&keywords=f10&qid=1718289878&s=pet-supplies&sprefix=f10%2Cpets%2C146&sr=1-4)

[Rescue Veterinary Grade Disinfectant](https://www.amazon.com/One-Step-Disinfectant-Cleaner-Deodorizer-Concentrate/dp/B00B9G3ZJM/ref=sr_1_3?crid=28HBHE8NIQ6DQ&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.9qbaZ5ASt8o2fN53RObY7IeYFMpOzJjL38qISafIsPxsZGk1N-LH6_QvsB23szmemDvzOS47Kw72bumt7fm7JmOLa3Bz6RxkFiHR23tND6Ut-hvSKGVNFTyIXdq1DZz_-rkit-VCokIcr6Rddjx3vMhwevOJ5OrF1q5eh2PSTB0wFMyJldY0qeKg4fLTVf72ECnTN1WNSFUycKbSY0WoP3m08NiFz2D6gv1XbhKHJti2PTl4eh5H4Da2fqvHbRknmEIDZ8ZDOnsmh_REShMhgnWX9kBzUnuJz5GrvQi_UdI.6mdKP1M_f0qoNoSYskDtcaeTRUTceTsQX-N89n8ZHlY&dib_tag=se&keywords=rescue%2Bspray&qid=1718290112&rdc=1&s=pet-supplies&sprefix=rescue%2Bspray%2Cpets%2C146&sr=1-3&th=1)

These protozoa are species specific, meaning dogs get giardia from other dogs and dogs get coccidiosis from other dogs. Your infected puppy or dog can indeed pass Giardia onto you but coccidiosis cannot infect you.

Most dogs are carrying these protozoa around in their systems, and constantly shedding them in their feces. These dogs are not ill from these protozoa because their immune systems are very strong. As for your puppy and their lower immune system, they are suspectable to both these parasites.

Many breeders do not include protozoa eradication in their routine deworming protocol. It has not been the norm for breeders to use prophylactic protocol against protozoa. Therefore, many new puppy owners experience bouts of infection from these protozoa for two reasons:

When a young puppy changes homes, there is stress involved (you don’t always see the stress, but it is there). This stress weakens your puppy’s immune system and makes him more susceptible to infection and illness.

Again, many breeders do not include protozoa eradication in their routine deworming protocol.

We here have a very rigorous prevention protocol in place to control Coccidia and Giardia. None of our pups here have ever contracted either of these parasites and absolutely should go home to you free and clear of either of these.

Another common cause of chronic digestive upset is simply poor diet. The digestive system is the workhorse of the body. Keeping it healthy is the key to good health. Poor digestion will affect every system in the body from the muscular to the reproductive systems. The digestive system also constitutes 70 per cent of the body’s immune system which means it defends the body against harmful bacteria and viruses. I make sure while your puppy is here in my care it has received the proper nutrition he needs, but environmental toxins are the invisible concern.

There are many great brands of dog food on the market these days so please do your research wisely and choose accordingly. We here, feed Diamond Naturals large breed Lamb and Rice puppy and dog food. Many Retrievers are sensitive or even allergic to chicken-based food so please stay away from anything chicken.

[Diamond Naturals Lamb & Rice Puppy Food](https://www.amazon.com/Diamond-Naturals-Large-Recipe-Premium/dp/B000WFKDT6/ref=sr_1_1?crid=1YALNFG31SM3U&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.utJ_5otCDymZL6Q4SUDUTB5ljhaEam4ghDeF-vJ8BtN04Q1Z-kL-qwFGvkayCOX2mZYmzSmTKaOIYfjEaDqhf-EcQg_x6Y0NMf2RBtT6W40_pWSR2LRK2G3K-9Pw8_4_o0bjStSW_HyhAy3lIRmWTZCw36hVE9wWPcfKS_3SaGTU2d94fFLa6kabJzQFqVkm5KCCHaiISqY5P20Fn4bVmsgEOjaCWE3X_2tsPA8qHQDLJQF7i_tmGbVcah-L-N0flEO0oAsB3ef1I62Qnv6zPlOJLhupE5CC-9rWMyGi554.Ek9-skgKNs9AgP67zLNjz9FolWfg7qWoZmTUjvRDF7w&dib_tag=se&keywords=diamond%2Bnaturals%2Blamb%2Band%2Brice%2Bpuppy&qid=1718292067&sprefix=Diamon%2Bnaturals%2Blam%2Caps%2C199&sr=8-1&th=1) [Diamond Naturals Lamb & Rice Dog Food](https://www.amazon.com/Diamond-Naturals-Premium-Pasture-Protein/dp/B001QEF4XC/ref=sr_1_5?crid=10O5P1SVVNEHZ&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.EeJA3JNpueYy4TmwQO-058ZkVaDU8CHSB7RjK7s2ssE0Q8mZe3-YZRyy0gJbSC2-Oe_KoLIvR6Mbqy5AYP3yWFIZEVz58V_wjTiDnNy68JSWIZwXdhtDNuthcPRNlCKsDUt-yzwGW3tNj92Zxu9fTme7SWz8kWzY6W5CLcSdkJmuGHit9t9RcAaUOOUwgDvNd56mrBb7XokEEt1Bwy5FLVgeCwDPaLsTnrhLf6HE-Ko7BQwTNoYMbK6yktEPzE3TyGFNPkE09CpaKt8GJnYfePJQOu1PlafsKkV24IYKYL8.ClI9OkONNmHI-aJplGiYidD5F2oVJzq_ainNgmoW_GA&dib_tag=se&keywords=diamond%2Bnaturals%2Blamb%2Band%2Brice%2Bdog%2Blarge%2Bbreed&qid=1718292141&sprefix=diamond%2Bnaturals%2Blamb%2Band%2Brice%2Bdoglarge%2Bbree%2Caps%2C252&sr=8-5&th=1)

Talk to your trusted Vet and make the best decision for you. We recommend starting with one bag of the Diamond Naturals that your puppy has been on and then slowly over a 2-wk. timeframe transitioning (if you decide) onto a new brand. A big part of your dog’s immune system is in their gut so let’s support this by feeding a high-quality food.

Do not mix or substitute kibble at any time. You will be setting yourself up for a ‘loose’ disaster!

In addition to a premium kibble, we suggest adding a few supplements and additions.

We highly recommend adding in NuVet Plus daily wafers. NuVet comes in to complement gut health with prebiotics and enzymes.

NuVet goes beyond just gut health to provide a complete and balanced source of vitamins and minerals, but a huge part of this product is added immune support which is incredibly important for a young pups start to life.

All our dogs here are on this daily supplement as well as their joint supplement. We start feeding the Nuvet Powder to all our pups starting at 3 weeks of age. They are transferred over to the wafers once they hit 7 wk. old.

This supplement has proven again and again that having this on board during the transitional stage into your new home has kept their little sensitive tummies balanced and eliminated loose stool from this often stressful time.

Supplementing your new puppy’s food on a daily basis with NuVet plus will greatly enhance, balance and properly maintain their health.

Here’s my link to get these on board now: [www.nuvet.com/521409](http://www.nuvet.com/521409)

So, you have the Nuvet wafers on board which will help tremendously, but let’s set you up even further for when that dreaded diarrhea hits. Whether it’s from transitional stress, too many treats or eating too many things off the ground, let’s be honest, it’ll happen. So let’s make a plan when things get loose.

***Your plan of ‘attack’***

You have your Nuvet wafers on board, great.

Get an additional probiotic to have on hand just in case. Whether you offer this daily or as an emergency firming up supplement, is up to you. Either way it’s a good bacterium to add for their gut health.

Fortiflora, Bene-Bac plus, and Zesty Paws Bites, are just a few of some good probiotics on the market right now.

[Fortiflora Probiotics](https://www.amazon.com/Purina-Veterinary-Fortiflora-Nutritional-Supplement/dp/B001650NNW/ref=sr_1_2?crid=39TJS02MSJP4M&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.9F_0hWUtkKB4ekEbqX6_xNYbNzIcSWHLUshr9YMobRsR6GI-g8KxyTjaPdL9cRPtaNgsUmVrZkmg8-nvihV2wgqnLE2MPr9pLfNhjm2jRxaTYIFHjFj-fhMrXRYTmKOjMSRFwcMR76nClOQTevusZGDV7aC6FzIsoVvyDhjIT-MoId3J9zsQsS-oTwx36KJslXhYL-Kp0DQpBY4o625T83YcOGZiS0PQ1619ZK6ys79SZakiDbhC-J0BiMjhBZ_JXkGKR9QGbLaNr3Iq-H-07nxL9gLE6bg8ixA9VZgUAvA.uXtbpkdJ1uG6-oN0VFiMf1exfOqHUXebuI-UBc6hSfE&dib_tag=se&keywords=fortiflora%2Bdog%2Bp%5Brobios&qid=1718290671&rdc=1&s=pet-supplies&sprefix=fortiflora%2Bdog%2Bp%2Brobios%2Cpets%2C140&sr=1-2&th=1) [Bene-Bac Plus Probiotic](https://www.amazon.com/Bene-Bac-Plus-Prebiotic-Powder-1-Pound/dp/B003FDWWPA/ref=sr_1_4?crid=2VQAEGUCY1NVL&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.Kyf6hv3ciyvXVFfNhAioTjYSHUCgJtqsMHcpahAIKpjjRxG6UbiyPvkUxdzI7c6_uDdNEiyUw6yQUukEMoePGOZRfPw_ZJMSuivZp_FC62Q.40FFvOWUX9SEPVUaaZd8Qc4I4pVoOSTbvN9vTTJ6kyU&dib_tag=se&keywords=Benebac%2Bpoluys&qid=1718291041&s=pet-supplies&sprefix=benebac%2Bpoluy%2Cpets%2C184&sr=1-4&th=1) [Zesty Paws Probiotic Bites](https://www.amazon.com/Zesty-Paws-Probiotics-For-Dogs/dp/B01N17VJF7/ref=sr_1_5?crid=1QKZMDXG3LHLV&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.sNq42Z4YjW16lvGPnfWooHpXqP13f48p0f4LnoI_pO1XtiS-GxiMDUwAZFZ1ClefdripZBK59IQ1N-hR0S-ItJ2AYsxXuQvBAvAIyQ0PvTqlSP5qFOAClos3zydeLlPQT6U5qvCkLW0vOzXr7xomJKYUq-lqeCOqLfkxL_BXZMSMletiT9VhGkow6UzS7LDKogHyB3BWiiGccklPvVMKWUuvLC1k2mHmrUC2IR777LL1_BtK9j5bqU-_HP6i3vNExt4zDERu5IRwi0P7Ts-KaMxx_tybOs4Y36gmmyfdW4I.qP3xDbD9mhJYyYk9VZm818RyztGeJ9IvuoCV9XtWhdw&dib_tag=se&keywords=Probiotics%2Bfor%2Bdogs&qid=1718291192&rdc=1&s=pet-supplies&sprefix=probiotics%2Bfor%2Bdog%2Cpets%2C147&sr=1-5&th=1)

The Prebiotics in the NuVet wafers helps stimulate the growth and survival of the probiotics, so they help that good bacteria to thrive. Enzymes help break down components of food like protein and carbohydrates. So, all three work wonders to provide a good guy biome for our dogs. Prebiotics, probiotics and enzymes make for a perfect gut trifecta.

Adding in a daily fish oil supplement of Salmon and Pollock oil will also help to keep skin and coat healthier. It also reduces excessive shedding and relieves dry, itchy skin.

[Zesty Paws Wild Alaskan Fish Oil](https://www.amazon.com/Zesty-Paws-Alaskan-Fish-Oil/dp/B0C9MWMH9G/ref=sr_1_18?crid=3FB00ADKJ4PFT&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.9aUTECqAnuG456LcfN6EdXpNfeB17hkh626x1NFfoRVG0NUVlzPIG5ajilOuSpCXvQNNx5f6MHPDLCq0lx07AN6GtgWRT5q7ZqAMUVRgy5wp7voxIbhJOgEAKampAL2DWmEVhP_hLtPmAmTTwbK0JOPeVpbWYFrz1uAlw9UAhdyNOimAISP_0n5AilHkDxW8Gg7FRFfctLlxp0Ap_nZKMGS8TKuPUwvMisYrLONcBiC2HlVtKhaBDoyJAjm6lR3f3H4lheoKQo0pIslU2UG2j2HegGGA7CyrGnBljXkHHy4.kCNi4UOVc98oZF1GPidW9ymG7y-V6KEh5U_6JsOY8rQ&dib_tag=se&keywords=fish%2Boil%2Bfor%2Bdogs&qid=1718291389&rdc=1&sprefix=fish%2Boil%2Bfior%2Bdog%2Caps%2C150&sr=8-18&th=1) [Native Pet Omega 3 Fish Oil](https://www.amazon.com/Native-Pet-Omega-Oil-Dogs/dp/B08RK1P78T/ref=sr_1_10?crid=3FB00ADKJ4PFT&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.9aUTECqAnuG456LcfN6EdXpNfeB17hkh626x1NFfoRVG0NUVlzPIG5ajilOuSpCXvQNNx5f6MHPDLCq0lx07AN6GtgWRT5q7ZqAMUVRgy5wp7voxIbhJOgEAKampAL2DWmEVhP_hLtPmAmTTwbK0JOPeVpbWYFrz1uAlw9UAhdyNOimAISP_0n5AilHkDxW8Gg7FRFfctLlxp0Ap_nZKMGS8TKuPUwvMisYrLONcBiC2HlVtKhaBDoyJAjm6lR3f3H4lheoKQo0pIslU2UG2j2HegGGA7CyrGnBljXkHHy4.kCNi4UOVc98oZF1GPidW9ymG7y-V6KEh5U_6JsOY8rQ&dib_tag=se&keywords=fish%2Boil%2Bfor%2Bdogs&qid=1718291389&rdc=1&sprefix=fish%2Boil%2Bfior%2Bdog%2Caps%2C150&sr=8-10&th=1) [Vital Pet Life Salmon/Pollock Fish Oil](https://www.amazon.com/Alaskan-Pollock-Supplement-Supports-Inflammation/dp/B086813XDT/ref=sr_1_7?crid=3FB00ADKJ4PFT&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.9aUTECqAnuG456LcfN6EdXpNfeB17hkh626x1NFfoRVG0NUVlzPIG5ajilOuSpCXvQNNx5f6MHPDLCq0lx07AN6GtgWRT5q7ZqAMUVRgy5wp7voxIbhJOgEAKampAL2DWmEVhP_hLtPmAmTTwbK0JOPeVpbWYFrz1uAlw9UAhdyNOimAISP_0n5AilHkDxW8Gg7FRFfctLlxp0Ap_nZKMGS8TKuPUwvMisYrLONcBiC2HlVtKhaBDoyJAjm6lR3f3H4lheoKQo0pIslU2UG2j2HegGGA7CyrGnBljXkHHy4.kCNi4UOVc98oZF1GPidW9ymG7y-V6KEh5U_6JsOY8rQ&dib_tag=se&keywords=fish+oil+for+dogs&qid=1718291389&rdc=1&sprefix=fish+oil+fior+dog%2Caps%2C150&sr=8-7)

Adding in a raw egg a few times a week will also be great for their gut health and skin/coat.

Everyone will try to tell you to add in Canned Pumpkin. In my personal experience, this hardly works.

I absolutely LOVE Olewo Dehydrated Carrots for firming up stool. This addition is magic. Within less than a day you’ll be back on track.

[Olewo Dehydrated Carrots](https://www.amazon.com/Olewo-Carrots-Dogs-Improve-Nutrients/dp/B0083QBVEW/ref=sr_1_2?crid=DLRZBNLLJTT9&dib=eyJ2IjoiMSJ9.BvvAskey79eMU0yP_EC8M8SWvaNH65xHNbSvOEa4rnCNILcK5iVS9XF8sKs9Q501W1dlFMfCykSFWomzZvlsB1u98KOOuqv40qYcB0_FUn4HbxjYLUrQn1XxuVId3wn5YjdvlIa17Du1kp3CSn_f-zzoyF16w1fhKPQYpO4J38XFAAZSiXxjAAupB1UY8KQfbCJl6y5cA3CcKOVvUYQVfqnveu1gxxZM3piUfuV9peni5da_0PYFPVohuQIbv-05owye6sJmk7g3kSVKKyrF28Ly1wwOBA8ph2QeM7fPFHo.GxL0CuEL7mnOL-UkN2otAb92UFa5i6SWja9LpOVfFms&dib_tag=se&keywords=dehydrated+carrots&qid=1718293451&s=pet-supplies&sprefix=dehydrated+carrots%2Cpets%2C151&sr=1-2)

***Let’s ease off the treats:***

When we feed too many low-quality commercial dog treats, that perfect gut trifecta that you’ve been working so hard to get perfect, will get thrown out of whack. You’re now working against yourself by feeding a high-quality kibble, Great Nuvet Supplements, extra probiotics with now feeding low quality dog treats. I would also hold off giving treats for a good month after new pup comes home. Use only kibble for ‘treats’ When you do start introducing treats, don’t skimp. Look for the treats with 1 or 2 ingredients in their list.

Try some of these all-natural options as well when treating your dog:

Raw carrots

Pieces of apple

Blueberries

Peanut butter

Raw or hard-boiled eggs

Dehydrated liver

Dehydrated sweet potato

Plain cheerios

Boiled pork

If your ‘plan of ‘attack’ does not get your pup back on track within a couple of days you may need more of a treatment plan:

Here’s an extended plan in detail:

Go to your vet – Rule out any significant medical conditions, viruses, illness, or disease. It is typically routine for most vets to run a parvo SNAP test when puppies have diarrhea. Your vet will also test for parasites so bring in a stool sample. Note: You only need less than a tsp. of feces to run a fecal test so don’t bring them a whole bag full!

No more treats – Cut out all commercially manufactured dog treats. During your treatment plan feed only your kibble and supplements listed above. If you’re feeding anything else, you will not be able to pinpoint whether your puppy’s issues are diet related or not.

Feed a high-quality kibble – Don’t try to get away with feeding a low-end dog food. You will pay for it in more ways than one.

Continue your Nuvet Supplements – [www.nuvet.com/521409](http://www.nuvet.com/521409)

Add in additional probiotics – If you aren’t feeding probiotics daily already, we suggest feeding probiotics daily for 30 days to balance out gut health.

Deworm your puppy – It is safe, easy to do and will not harm your puppy. Coccidia and giardia are the most under-diagnosed parasites. Not because they are not common, but because they are very small and very difficult for vets to detect under a microscope.

Your vet can deworm your pup if you would like but you can also do it yourself. We use safeguard (fenbendazole) here once pups are 6 wks. And older. Administer for 3 days straight in a row. If Giardia is suspected, dose for a full 5 days.

Safeguard will NOT kill coccidia. If you suspect your pup has coccidia please order Toltrazuril from totaltoltrazuril.com <<http://totaltoltrazuril.com>> ORDER TORTRAZURIL and does for a full 3 days. Your vet will try to sell you ALBON but this product has been around forever and does not work half as well as it should.

Stay Consistent – Do not change your puppy’s diet for at least 60 days, even if you think his problems are diet related. It takes more than 30 days for your puppy’s system to acclimate to a new diet.

So, that’s the whole scoop

I hope you’ve learned how to deal with this dreaded ‘condition’ by following the advice and treatment plan I’ve discussed here and I hope you don’t feel alone in this. When in doubt, please follow your veterinarian’s advice.

The health of my dogs is my top priority so I am able to produce the healthiest litters of pups to pass along to you.