

For our hospitalized and boarding parrots at Specialized Care for Avian & Exotic Pets

Avian bornavirus was first discovered in 2008 and has been determined to be a cause of proventricular dilatation disease (PDD) in parrots. While both the virus and disease have been present for over 30 years, our understanding of how birds become naturally infected with avian bornavirus and develop PDD is poor at this time. Some studies suggest that up to 30% of captive parrots are positive for avian bornavirus and only as small fraction of those birds go on to develop PDD. Testing for avian bornavirus in parrots is not 100% accurate. Unfortunately, because we are not able to consistently confirm the avian bornavirus status of each bird and virus transmission and disease development have not been clearly defined, we strive to reduce risk of transmission of all infectious diseases between patients in our hospital and boarding areas (This is also true of other diseases such as polyomavirus, herpesvirus, Chlamydophila), etc.

For more discussion on avian bornavirus and PDD, please go to www.avianstudios.com and select 'Podcasts and Seminars' or "Blog' for more details. For more information on avian bornavirus and your parrot, go to:

http://buffalobirdnerd.com/clients/8963/documents/Avian_Borna_Virus_and_Your_Parrot.pdf

This summary was written in 2013 by Laura Wade, DVM, ABVP and Scott Echols, DVM, ABVP and will be modified as new information becomes available.