



## ANIMAL CLINIC EAST

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### Vaccination Recommendations for Dogs and Cats

#### Dogs

Our doctors individualize vaccination selections for each pet after taking a careful history from you, the owner, and completing a thorough physical examination of your pet. Our goal is to protect your pet from serious infectious diseases with appropriate vaccinations given only as often as necessary. We will discuss the best vaccination protocol for your dog during your dog's annual preventive care exam.

**Rabies.** Rabies is a deadly disease frequently diagnosed in wild animals. In eastern Washington and Oregon, rabies is endemic in the bat population. Unvaccinated pets are at risk for rabies. A well-vaccinated pet population protects humans from this dreadful disease. Rabies vaccination should be given to all dogs. Puppies should be given their first vaccination at 16 weeks old. The vaccination series consists of 2 vaccinations given one year apart followed by boosters given every three years.

**DA2PPC (the "Puppy Shots").** This vaccination is for 5 viral diseases: distemper, adenovirus 2, parainfluenza, parvovirus, and coronavirus. All puppies should receive this vaccination at 8, 12, and 16 weeks old, with a booster in one year.

**DA2PP (the "core vaccine").** This vaccination is to booster immunity to distemper, adenovirus 2, parainfluenza and parvovirus. The booster is given one year after the last puppy shot and every three years thereafter. The doctor will decide during your dog's annual preventive care exam if this booster protocol is suitable for your dog based on your dog's health status and exposure risk. Dogs that are highly social and frequently travel are at increased risk and benefit from more frequent boosters.

**Bordetella.** Bordetella is a bacterium that is one of the more common causes of "kennel cough". This vaccine is recommended for dogs that are boarded at a kennel, visit dog parks, are taken to a grooming facility, or participate in dog shows. Puppies should be vaccinated at 8-10 weeks. The oral vaccine provides protection for one year.

#### Cats

Our vaccination recommendations for cats are dependent upon an accurate history to establish potential risk for exposure to disease. We will discuss the best vaccination protocol for your cat during your cat's annual preventive care exam.

**Rabies.** All cats should be vaccinated for rabies; in fact, Washington State now requires it by law. All cats, even indoor cats, are at risk due to the fact that bats are the rabies reservoir in our geographic area. Unvaccinated pets are at risk for rabies. A well-vaccinated pet population also protects humans from this dreadful disease. The most recent human exposure to rabies in our area occurred from a rabid bat found in a house. Kittens should be given their first vaccination at 16 weeks old. The vaccination series consists of 2 vaccinations given one year apart followed by boosters given every three years.

**RCP + C.** This vaccination is for 3 viral diseases (feline viral rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia) and one bacterial disease (chlamydia). All kittens should receive this vaccination at 8, 12 and 16 weeks old, with a booster at one year, and every 3 years thereafter. This vaccine helps to provide immunity against the following diseases:

- ♦Rhinotracheitis (feline herpes) is a viral disease that causes corneal ulcers, bronchitis, and pneumonia.
- ♦Calicivirus is a respiratory virus that can cause nasal discharge, sneezing, eye discharge, oral ulcers and occasionally pneumonia.
- ♦Panleukopenia (feline distemper) is a deadly viral disease that attacks nearly all systems of the body. It poses a serious risk to unvaccinated kittens.
- ♦Chlamydia is a bacterial disease that causes conjunctivitis and upper respiratory infection. This is not the same Chlamydia involved in human disease.

**Feline Leukemia.** This vaccination provides protection against infection with the feline leukemia virus. All kittens should receive this vaccination at 12 and 16 weeks old, again one year later and then every two years. Boosters of this vaccination are dependent upon the cat's lifestyle and will be determined by the doctor in consultation with the owner.