



Vaccinations

Core Vaccines

FVRCP (Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia)

Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis caused by a herpes virus, and once a cat is infected, the virus will lay dormant until a cat is stressed, then causing clinical signs. Clinical signs include lethargy, sneezing, conjunctivitis, and eye/nasal discharge. This virus is spread through the eye and nasal discharge of infected cats, as well as contact with items such as food and water bowls. Treatment often includes fluids for dehydration, eye ointments to prevent corneal ulcers, and antibiotics to prevent secondary infections.

Calicivirus causes clinical signs similar to rhinotracheitis, but much milder. Cats often develop oral ulcers as a result of this upper respiratory infection. Joint inflammation can develop leading to temporary lameness. Infected kittens and cats shed the virus through the saliva and eye/nasal discharge. Usually this virus runs its course and is treated with symptomatic fluid therapy, antibiotics, and eye medications.

Panleukopenia is a feline virus that leads to an extremely low white blood cell count, leaving cats (especially kittens) susceptible to severe infections. This virus also attacks the cells in the intestines leading to severe diarrhea. Additional clinical signs include lethargy, decreased appetite, fever, vomiting, and dehydration. The disease is spread through urine, feces, and nasal discharge. Treatment in young kittens can be difficult since there is no medication to kill the virus.

Rabies is a viral disease that attacks the central nervous system. The disease is usually spread through the bite of an infected animal and is secreted in the saliva of infected animals. Signs of rabies include fearfulness, aggression, difficulty swallowing, paralysis, seizures, and staggering. Rabies infection can only be confirmed through microscopic examination of the animal's brain tissue. There is no treatment for the disease once clinical signs appear.

Non Core Vaccines

Feline Leukemia (FeLV) depresses the immune system and causes anemia and cancer in cats. There is no treatment to remove the virus from an infected cats' body. Transmission is spread through body fluids such as saliva and blood. It is recommended that all kittens receive this vaccine, and that kittens are tested before receiving their first vaccination.

Feline Bordetella is an intranasal vaccination given to prevent the spread of bacterium that can cause an upper respiratory infection in cats. Cats who are found in large groups such as shelters, breeding households, or boarding facilities are the most likely to be affected. The bacteria are spread through oral and nasal secretions. Clinical signs of the disease include mild sneezing, coughing, fever, nasal and eye discharge. Treatment with antibiotics is often successful.

Vaccine Schedule

Core Vaccines:

6-8 weeks: FVRCP (Initial)

9-12 weeks: FVRCP (Booster) + FeLV (Initial)

13-15 weeks: FVRCP (Booster) + FeLV (Annual) + Rabies (Annual)

16-20 weeks: FVRCP (Annual)

**Discuss with your pets veterinarian if you have any questions regarding your pets risk for exposure to any of these diseases, and which vaccines your puppy should receive.*

***Please note that this is a tentative schedule. The total number of FVRCP vaccines given may differ based on the age of presentation, but it is vital that the series continue until at least 16 weeks (4 months) of age.*