

Vaccine Options

There are various vaccines to choose for your dog or cat depending on their lifestyle and exposure to risk factors.

Generally, cats live indoor and have less risk factors. But pets who live entirely indoors still have possible exposure to disease from the humans who walk around outside. People are able to pick up disease causing pathogens on their feet as they walk where sick animals may have been and bring that disease causing agent back into the home. There are two categories of vaccines: core (required for all pets to be well protected) and non-core vaccines. Non-core vaccines need to be administered based on your pet's lifestyle and potential risk to disease. Rabies vaccine is required for both dogs and cats to protect the vaccinated animal but to also protect the pet owners from potential exposure.

Cat Vaccines

Core Vaccines:

- *FVRCP*, called 'Feline Distemper': protects against feline rhinotracheitis (an upper respiratory virus), Calici virus (an upper respiratory virus), and Panleukopenia virus (an upper respiratory, gastrointestinal and neurologic virus)
- *Rabies*

Non-Core Vaccine:

- *Feline Leukemia Virus*: protects against feline leukemia virus which is spread through saliva contact and causes immunosuppression. Administered to cats with potential contact to other cats with an unknown vaccine history, primarily outdoor cats.

Dog Vaccines

Core Vaccines:

- *DHPP*: protects against Distemper virus (affects respiratory, gastrointestinal and neurologic systems), Hepatitis/Adenovirus (affects the liver), Parainfluenza virus (affects respiratory system), and Parvovirus (affects primarily gastrointestinal system)
- *Leptospirosis*: protects against a bacteria spread by wildlife that causes liver and/or kidney failure. This is a disease that sick dogs can pass to humans.
- *Rabies*

Non-Core Vaccines:

- *Lyme*: protects against Lyme disease carried by ticks. Administered if dogs have potential tick exposure.
- *Canine Influenza* (respiratory virus, highly contagious): Administered if dogs have potential exposure to groups of other dogs, particularly boarding kennels, dog parks, dog competitions.
- *Bordetella or Kennel Cough* (respiratory virus, highly contagious): Administered if dogs have potential exposure to groups of other dogs, particularly boarding kennels, dog parks, dog competitions.