

## Feline Vaccine Protocol

**Rabies:** The 1st vaccination is given at 12 weeks of age or older and is good for one year.

We use non-adjuvanted rabies vaccinations in cats which should be administered yearly.

**FVRCP:** The 1st vaccination is given at 6-8 weeks of age, then administered every 3-4 weeks through 16 weeks of age. A single dose is given 1 year following the last dose of the initial series, and then no more frequently than every 3 years.

**FeLV:** The 1st vaccination is given at 8-10 weeks of age, a 2nd vaccination will then be given 3-4 weeks later. Boosters are then recommended annually.

*\* Please note that the vaccination recommendations above are guidelines and that a schedule for vaccinations will be tailored to your pets individual needs.*

**Combo Test:** Feline Leukemia/Feline "AIDS" Testing (FeLV / FIV): Is recommended in all kittens and high risk adults.

**Vaccine Reactions:** Some pets may experience a vaccine reaction. Symptoms may include lethargy, vomiting, or face swelling and typically happen within a few hours after the vaccine has been given. In the event your pet does have a vaccine reaction, please call us immediately so we can properly treat your pet.

## Feline Vaccinations



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**Core Vaccinations:**  
FVRCP (feline viral rhinotracheitis, calici, panleukopenia); Rabies

**Non-Core Vaccinations:**  
FeLV (feline leukemia virus)

### **Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (FVR)**

Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (FVR) is caused by feline herpesvirus 1. FVR can cause upper respiratory tract infections and is highly contagious. Transmission is mainly through inhalation of aerosolized respiratory secretions from an infected cat and via contact with surfaces and objects that harbor the virus. Symptoms consist of sneezing, ocular/nasal discharge, lethargy, loss of appetite, and/or red/inflamed eyes. Infected cats can become chronically infected and secondary bacterial infections are common with FVR.

### **Feline Calicivirus (C)**

Feline Calicivirus is similar in symptoms and transmission to FVR but is typically more mild and oral ulcerations may be present. There are, however, some strains of this virus which can cause fever, lethargy, pneumonia, muscle pain and lameness.

### **Feline Panleukopenia (P)**

Feline Panleukopenia is occasionally referred to as feline distemper but is not related to the disease known as canine distemper. The disease is actually more akin to canine parvovirus. Feline Panleukopenia is caused by a virus which targets rapidly dividing cells (such as those found in the gastrointestinal tract and bone marrow). Transmission is through ingestion of feces or

by contact with surfaces or objects that may harbor the virus. The virus is very resistant and can live in the environment for up to a year at room temperature. The principle symptoms include fever, lethargy, vomiting and diarrhea. Kittens infected in utero (while still in the mother's womb) will typically have neurologic clinical signs at birth.

### **Feline Leukemia**

Feline Leukemia (FeLV) is caused by a virus that can cause life-long disease in cats. FeLV can be passed from mother to kitten and from cat to cat. This is predominately through saliva and prolonged close contact between cats (such as with grooming but also through bite wounds). Some cats, once infected, will become unable to fight off infections and often develop diseases such as chronic colds, skin and mouth sores, pneumonia and anemia. Infected cats may also develop cancer, such as lymphoma, as they age. At risk pets include stray cats, outdoor cats, kittens, and multiple cat households. We recommend that all high-risk cats and kittens be vaccinated against this disease.

### **Feline Immunodeficiency Virus**

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a very serious disease that is similar to human HIV/AIDS (though NOT transmittable to humans). Once infected, cats will have this disease throughout their lives. FIV can be transmitted from mother to kitten and from cat to cat (predominately through bite wounds). Symptoms are similar to FeLV and some cats will become unable to fight off infections and may develop chronic infections and cancer. At risk pets include stray cats, outdoor cats and multiple cat households.

*\*\*Please note a simple blood test can be performed to detect if your cat has FeLV and FIV. This test should be performed on all newly adopted cats and kittens and may be recommended if your cat becomes ill or your pet is considered at high risk for exposure.*

*\*\*Please note that, if properly cared for, cats infected with FeLV and/or FIV can live relatively long happy lives.*

### **Rabies**

Rabies is a very serious, widespread and usually fatal disease in which all warm-blooded animals can become infected, including humans! Rabies is a virus that affects the brain and can result in neurologic clinical signs (seizures, paralysis), behavior changes (aggression or aloofness), avoidance of light. The deadly virus is most commonly transmitted through the bite of an infected animal. The Northwest has a large population of raccoons, skunk, bats and other wildlife that serve as important carriers of this disease!!!

***We highly recommend ALL dogs and cats whether indoors or outdoors be vaccinated against Rabies.***

