



Vaccines Available at the CPC

Rabies Vaccine (Cats and Dogs)

A rabies vaccine is required for all owned animals by Vermont state law. We strongly recommend that all animals coming for wellness services at HSCC receive a rabies vaccine at a minimum. Rabies is a serious disease that is transmissible to people and is nearly always fatal. It is generally transmitted to domestic animals from wild animal populations.

Feline (Cat) Distemper Vaccine (FVRCP)

Feline distemper is the most common vaccine given to cats and considered a core vaccine (meaning all vets recommend this vaccine unless there is a particular health reason not to do it). This vaccine protects from three different viruses. Two are common upper respiratory diseases (causing "cat colds"). It also protects against feline distemper, which is very easily spread. It causes vomiting, diarrhea, and severe dehydration, and can be fatal (particularly in kittens and young cats).

Feline Leukemia Vaccine (Cats Only)

Feline leukemia is a feline only virus that depresses the immune system, leading to persistent infections, anemia, and some types of cancer. The disease is ultimately fatal and is transmitted through close direct contact with infected cats (including things like bite wounds, sharing water bowls, and mutual grooming). We recommend this vaccine for indoor/outdoor cats; we will also recommend testing for feline leukemia prior to vaccinating (see FIV/FelV testing below). This vaccine must be boosted once 3-4 weeks after initial vaccination,

Canine (Dog) Distemper Vaccine (DAPP)

This is considered a core vaccine and vets recommend this for all dogs, unless there is a specific health reason to not vaccinate. This vaccine includes protection against two upper respiratory viruses, as well as canine distemper and canine parvovirus. Parvovirus causes severe vomiting, diarrhea, and dehydration. Distemper can cause a number of symptoms, ranging from respiratory to neurological to gastrointestinal, and can be difficult to catch right away. Both distemper and parvovirus can be fatal in dogs.

Kennel Cough Vaccine (Dogs Only)

Kennel cough is the general term for upper respiratory infections in dogs. Bordetella (a bacteria) is a common cause of kennel cough and has a fairly effective vaccine. This vaccine is recommended for dogs who will be meeting a lot of other dogs. Day care, groomers, boarding facilities etc. require this vaccine. It is important to note that bordetella is far from the only cause of upper respiratory infections in dogs—a dog may be vaccinated for bordetella but still get kennel cough, as there are many different infectious causes of upper respiratory infections in dogs.



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Canine Influenza Vaccine (Dogs Only)

Canine influenza is a common upper respiratory virus in dogs. This vaccine is generally recommended for dogs visiting dog parks, boarding facilities, and groomers. Some boarding facilities may require it. It is important to note that this does not fully prevent dogs from getting the influenza virus, but it will help lessen transmission and severity of disease. The initial vaccine must be boosted after 2-4 weeks to be effective.

Lyme Vaccine (Dogs Only)

Lyme disease is a tickborne disease that is very common in Vermont. It can cause fever, lameness, inappetance, and vomiting. It can also, in rarer cases, cause kidney damage or neurologic signs. We may recommend the Lyme vaccine if your dog is outdoors in heavy tick areas frequently. The initial vaccine needs a booster after 3-4 weeks and then is given annually. This vaccine is not a replacement for tick control- all dogs should also have monthly tick prevention applied.

Leptospirosis Vaccine (Dogs Only)

Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease in dogs and other mammals that can cause liver and kidney problems. Leptospira bacteria thrive in wet environments and is often carried by wildlife, so any animal that is outdoors frequently and may come into contact with wet environments may be at risk. This is another vaccination we will likely recommend if your dog is often outdoors. The initial vaccine needs a booster after 3-4 weeks and is then given annually.

PureVax Vaccines (Rabies & FeLV - Cats Only)

Cats are sensitive creatures, and over time veterinarians and vaccine manufacturers have noticed that with traditional vaccines, Cats have a roughly 1 in 10,000 chance of developing a highly aggressive tumor at the site of vaccine injection. Due to this risk, a new line of vaccines has been developed: the PureVax line. PureVax vaccines reduce the chance of a tumor developing at the site of vaccine injection to almost zero. PureVax vaccines are available for Rabies and Feline Leukemia vaccines.