

Port Veterinary Clinic Risks and Benefits of Vaccinations

Thank you for vaccinating your pet. Vaccinations are important for pets to maintain a healthy lifestyle. Please read the following risks and benefits of vaccinations and ask the veterinarian any questions you may have.

Canine

Vaccination	Risks	Benefits
Rabies	Pets may have a bump at the injection site.	Prevents your pet from contracting Rabies, which is often contracted from wild animals such as skunks or bats. Another benefit is that this vaccination is required by state law.
Distemper	Without the vaccination, your pet could contract distemper, which is carried often by raccoons..	Distemper is part of the core vaccinations, and prevents contracting an often fatal disease.
Adenovirus Type 1 and Type 2 (Hepatitis)	Type 1- Hepatitis; Type 2- Respiratory, Adenovirus 1 may cause severe liver damage, while Adenovirus 2 is an important factor in kennel cough.	Keeps your pet safe from Hepatitis and other respiratory infections. Adenovirus 1 and 2 are part of the core vaccinations.
Leptospirosis	Can cause kidney and liver damage. Pets around "farm" animals can contract "lepto" from run off, or from wild animals. This can often be fatal	Can be given on a yearly basis to protect against a disease carried by livestock, or coyotes.
Parainfluenza	Parainfluenza can cause respiratory distress in dogs.	Keeps your pet safe from some respiratory diseases.
Parvovirus	Not vaccinating against "Parvo" can be dangerous for especially young puppies. Parvo can cause severe dehydration, diarrhea, and even death.	Part of the core vaccination. Defends against parvovirus.
Lymes	Only 1 in 4 dogs do not get protection from the vaccination. The Lymes Vaccination is linked to neurological problems.	A chance to protect your dog from Lymes Disease.
Bordetella	Your pet may have a slight cough after the nasal or ocular aerosol vaccination. This should dissipate in a day or two.	Protects you pet from "Kennel Cough." Kennel Cough is an upper respiratory infection, which is similar to the human cold. Many grooming and boarding facilities require this vaccination for services.
Coronavirus	The Coronavirus Vaccine, is not a core vaccination anymore, and is not recommended by the AVMA..	Guards against a highly contagious intestinal disease causing vomiting and diarrhea.

Veterinarian's Recommendations:

Rabies: When 4-6 months of age, then a booster in 1 year. The second vaccination will be current for 3 years.

DA₂LPP (Distemper Combo Vaccination): Puppies receive this vaccination at 8,12, and 16 weeks of age, then receive a booster in 1 year and depending on what your pet's lifestyle is (ie, hunting dog, around wild animals, livestock, age etc.) may receive this vaccination yearly, or every 3 years.

Leptospirosis: This vaccination is part of the Distemper Combo but it is important to keep your pet current on this vaccination if they have a lifestyle in which they are around other pets, wild animals, or livestock.

Bordetella: Dr. Dittmar suggests this vaccination if your pet is around other dogs (ie, dog park, groomer, kenneling at a boarding facility) This vaccination needs to be completed yearly.

Lymes: If you choose to vaccinate for lymes, your pet should be vaccinated every year.

General:

With any vaccination, your pet can feel lethargic for up to 24 hours after the vaccination. Also your pet may have a bump at the injection site for up to 4 weeks. Both the lethargy and the bump are normal. If you pet is lethargic or swelling occurs anywhere on your pet please use the following dosage to alleviate symptoms.

Weight	Aspirin	Benadryl
0-25 pounds	1 Baby aspirin (81mg)	10mg
25-100 pounds	1 Aspirin (325mg)	25mg
100 + pounds	2 Adult (325mg)Aspirin	50mg

You can give this dosage to your pet every 4 hours until the symptoms subside.

Sometimes you pet can have an immediate anaphylaxis reaction to the vaccination at which they will immediately collapse. Dr. Dittmar is prepared for this occurrence with epinephrine, although she has never had a dog have such a response in over 20 years. If your animal does have a slight difficulty with the vaccination, please call us at the office 262.284.7103 during office hours (M-F 8-5 closed between 12:15-1:15pm, and Sat 9-noon) and let a receptionist know so we can note the reaction in your pet's file.

Although you have not received a form such as this before getting your pet vaccinated, we guarantee you the vaccination(s) have not changed since last year, the law has. We now need to share with you all the risks and benefits of the vaccinations we offer at Port Veterinary Clinic.

Again, thank you for vaccinating your pet; it is a vital part of their health care.

I, _____ (Owner's Name) have read and understand the risks and benefits of vaccinations for my pet _____ (Pet's Name).

Signature _____ Date _____

The Staff at Port Veterinary Clinic

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