



8120 S. Cass Ave , Darien, IL 60561 (630) 598-0600

## Feline Vaccinations

### Why Vaccinate?

Many serious pet diseases can be prevented by vaccination. Even if your pet is kept indoors, he or she can be exposed to viruses carried in the air, dust or on clothing. Vaccination schedules will be individualized for your pet's age, when they last received vaccines and other risk factors. Booster immunizations are necessary to continue protection.

### Recommended Vaccinations for Cats

We require FVRCP and Rabies vaccinations for most surgical procedures. Rabies vaccinations are required by the state of Illinois for all pets over 4 months of age.

**FVRCP** (Feline Distemper) **FVRC** (Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus) are highly contagious and widespread respiratory diseases. Even a cat that seems healthy can infect your pet. These diseases are easily spread from cat to cat so chances are high that your cat will be exposed. **P** (Feline Distemper) is highly contagious and can be fatal to your cat. Symptoms include depression, loss of appetite, fever, vomiting and diarrhea. The disease is easily transmitted from cat to cat so chances are high that your cat will be exposed.

**Rabies** is a fatal disease that affects the nervous system. It can infect any mammal, including humans. Rabies vaccinations are required by the state of Illinois for all pets over 4 months of age.

### Optional Vaccinations for Cats

**Feline Leukemia** (FeLV) is a form of cancer that is one of the leading killers of cats today. It is spread through an infected animal's saliva, urine or breast milk. Every kitten three months of age or older or adult cat with an unknown history should have the simple blood test for FeLV. We recommend this vaccination for cats that will be allowed outdoors, boarded or exposed in any other way to potential carriers of the disease. The first vaccination may be given at 3 months of age (following a negative blood test) with a booster 2 to 4 weeks later and annually thereafter.

### Wellness Schedule

#### **6-8 weeks** Wellness Exam

Fecal test for intestinal parasites

FVRCP #1

#### **10 -12 weeks** FVRCP #2

#### **3 months** Feline Leukemia Test

FeLV #1 (optional)

Declawing (optional)

#### **14 - 16 weeks** Fecal test and repeat worm treatment if necessary

FVRCP #3

FeLV #2 (optional)

#### **4 months** Rabies vaccination

Begin home dental care

#### **6 Months** Spay or Neuter

Microchip

#### **1 year and annually thereafter**

Wellness Exam

FVRCP booster

Rabies booster  
FeLV booster (optional)  
Fecal test for intestinal parasites

## **Preventative Healthcare**

Preventative healthcare is the easiest way to catch potential problems early and keeps your pet feeling happy and healthy well into their “golden years”.

**Intestinal Parasites** can cause diarrhea, weight loss or intestinal bleeding in your cat. Microscopic examination of your cat’s stool should be done yearly for outdoor cats.

**Spaying or Neutering** is an easy way to reduce the risks of some cancers, medical conditions and behavioral problems if done early in your cat’s life. It also prevents unwanted pregnancies.

**Dental Examinations** should be done at least once a year to monitor your cat’s dental health. If necessary, dental cleanings will be recommended. If periodontal disease is caught early in the gingivitis stage, it is 100% reversible. If it is ignored it can lead to painful periodontal problems such as painful gums, abscessed or infected teeth, tooth loss and even systemic problems such as congestive heart failure.

**Fleas** can cause major problems for both you and your pet. They can cause a lot of irritation to your pet and unless your pet is on a flea preventative can infest your house with flea eggs, larvae and adult fleas. There are several newer, safer and more effective products available to protect your house and your pet. One of our staff members can help you determine what is best for you and your pet.

**FUS (Feline Urologic Syndrome)** may be characterized by frequent trips to the litter box, difficult urination and bloody urine. Feeding your cat a diet low in magnesium and phosphorus helps to prevent the formation of crystals in the urine which can contribute to FUS.

**Senior Care** can help keep your pet healthy and happy for many more years. Once a cat reaches the age of 7, they are considered a senior. In order to detect potential problems such as kidney failure or heart and liver disease early, tests such as a urinalysis, comprehensive blood work or x-rays may be recommended.