

North Scottsdale Animal Hospital Vaccination Guidelines (Revised 2/1/2007)

At North Scottsdale Animal Hospital our goal is to provide our patients and clients with the highest level of care and client service. We use the latest advancements in veterinary medicine and surgery to achieve that goal. Your pet is a member of the family and every effort will be made to enhance your pet's quality of life by emphasizing preventative health care and client education.

Vaccination programs have reduced disease in our pet populations and are still considered the foundation of preventative health care programs. In November 2006 the American Veterinary Medical Association and American Animal Hospital Association revised the guidelines for vaccinating our patients. Therefore, North Scottsdale Animal Hospital has adopted the following recommendations:

Kittens

1. **Panleukopenia/Herpesvirus/Calicivirus:** Kittens should receive a series of three to four booster vaccines starting at 8 weeks of age. Each vaccine should be administered at 3 to 4 week intervals with the final vaccine administered at or around 16 weeks of age. These viruses can potentially cause severe respiratory, gastrointestinal and/or disease of the immune system which can be fatal.
2. **Feline Leukemia (FeLV):** Kittens less than 4 months of age should receive a series of two booster shots at 12 weeks and 16 weeks of age. Feline Leukemia virus can potentially cause disease of the immune system similar to HIV in people. This virus affects cats only.
3. **Rabies:** Kittens should receive the first rabies vaccine at 12 weeks of age or older.

Adult Cats

1. **Panleukopenia/Herpesvirus/Calicivirus:** Indoor adult cats should receive a booster vaccine every three years. Clients who have cats who are advanced in age or have medical conditions should discuss alternatives with the doctor. These viruses can potentially cause severe respiratory, gastrointestinal and/or disease of the immune system which can be fatal.
2. **Feline Leukemia (FeLV):** All outdoor cats should receive an annual booster. Indoor cats do not need boosters beyond the initial kitten series. Feline Leukemia virus can potentially cause disease of the immune system similar to HIV in people. This virus affects cats only.
3. **Rabies:** All cats should receive an annual rabies booster.

The following vaccines are either not administered or administered **ONLY** at client request. These vaccines are not considered core vaccines by the AAFP/AVMA/AAHA and are therefore not recommended for all patients: Feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), Bordetella, Microsporium canis (ringworm), Feline Immunodeficiency virus (FIV), and Giardia.