

Pet Medical Center of Duncanville Feline Preventative Medicine Guidelines

We have created preventative medicine guidelines to assist you in making the best decisions that will help your pet live a long and healthy life. **Two of the following guidelines (rabies vaccination and fecal intestinal parasite testing/deworming) are required for all pets being treated at the PMCOD.** Rabies vaccination is required by state law. We require intestinal parasite testing yearly (and deworming yearly if the pet is not on heartworm prevention) because fecal parasites are a threat to humans, especially children, and can lead to blindness or other diseases in people. We feel it is our responsibility to help prevent human sickness from animal intestinal parasites through regular fecal testing and deworming of pets.

For all kittens, we recommend the following:

- Heartworm, intestinal parasite, and flea prevention monthly year-round; tick prevention if exposed
- Fecal testing at each visit until we have two fecal samples without any worms found (required)
- Deworming at each visit (required)
- Vaccinations starting at 6-8 weeks of age, boosted every 3 weeks, until the kitten is 16-18 weeks of age:
 - Rabies vaccine at 12 weeks of age (required by state law)
 - Feline Distemper combination vaccine (FVRCP)
 - Additional vaccinations as determined by your kitten's lifestyle (see below)

For all adult cats, we recommend:

- Heartworm, intestinal parasite, and flea prevention monthly year-round; tick prevention if exposed
- Fecal testing each year and deworming if the pet is not on heartworm prevention or the test is positive (required)
- Rabies vaccination yearly with the feline specific rabies vaccine specially formulated to decrease adverse reactions. Note that this is a one year vaccine – even if you live in a city that honors 3 year rabies vaccines, you will need to get this vaccination annually.
- Additional vaccinations as determined by your cat's lifestyle (see below)

Our other additional vaccination recommendations depend on the lifestyle of your pet:

Classification	Lifestyle	Recommendations	Accept
Outdoor Enthusiast or Outdoor Socialite	Outdoors most of the time, unsupervised roaming or Outdoors some of the time; may come into contact with unknown cats	Feline Distemper combo (FVRCP) every 3 years Feline Leukemia (FeLV) yearly Feline AIDS (FIV) yearly Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) yearly	
Indoor Socialite	Multi-cat household, mostly indoor but does have contact with other cats through boarding/showing	Feline Distemper combo (FVRCP) every 3 years Feline Leukemia (FeLV) optional Feline AIDS (FIV) optional	
Indoor Elitist	One or two-cat household, indoors mostly, but allowed outside under supervision in the yard; does not meet other animals	Feline Distemper combo (FVRCP) every 3 years	
Indoor Pampered Pet	Strictly indoor, never comes into contact with other dogs/cats, sits in lap for hours at a time; rarely touches bare earth	Feline Distemper combo (FVRCP) every 3 years	

Vaccinations help prevent disease in our pets, but they do not protect all animals 100%. Even if you follow the recommended protocol for your pet, it is still possible for your pet to get sick with one of the diseases we vaccinate against. Vaccines can cause reactions, including vomiting, trembling, and collapse, but this is rare and can be avoided through premedication with Benedryl if your pet is known to react to vaccinations. In cats, another rare but potentially lethal adverse reaction is development of a type of mass (called a fibrosarcoma) at the injection site. To help prevent this problem, in cats we use specially formulated vaccines that have the lowest possible risk of such an extreme adverse reaction.

For senior pets older than 10 years of age, we recommend yearly blood work and urinalysis, as well as ECG or chest x-rays if needed.

Please sign and date below to show that you understand all of the above information and have had a chance to talk about your pet's lifestyle and appropriate preventative care with a technician or doctor.

Signature _____

Date _____