

## Vaccinations - Cat

For a new kitten the ideal starting age is 9 weeks with a second dose at 12 weeks.

An older cat that is beginning a vaccination course can start at any time with the second dose given 3 weeks later. Your pet does not achieve full immunity until one week after the second dose.

All boosters (necessary to keep up the immunity) are given one year from the date of the second starting dose.

We are open seven days per week. Call us to book an appointment and for price.

### **WHY DO YOU OFFER CHOICES?**

Our vets will advise you on what is best for your cat's lifestyle. Multi-cat households, roaming cats and breeding cats may need to be protected against diseases that single cats living in an apartment, never going outside may not need. This is an entirely individually based assessment and you benefit from a thorough examination of your pet and consultation with the vet to decide together the best course of action for your own cat.

### **WHAT ARE THE DISEASES?**

Here is a list of diseases we can vaccinate your cat against.

#### **CAT FLU or CALICI VIRUS**

This is an airborne disease whose symptoms include, sneezing, runny nose, eye ulceration and mouth ulcers. It is treatable but results in chronic respiratory damage.

It is treatable with regular doses of interferon which is costly. Not all of those treated will survive.

#### **ENTERITIS or PANLEUKOPAENIA**

This causes diarrhoea, vomiting, and malformation of unborn kittens, especially extreme brain deformities. It is non-treatable almost always resulting in death but those who survive have severe gut damage.

#### **FELV (FELINE LEUKAEMIA VIRUS)**

This is passed on by feeding, fighting and fornicating. The symptoms include tumours, anaemia, weight loss and brain damage. It is incurable and results in death. A small number of cats are FELV carriers who initially have no symptoms but still pass the virus on to others who die.

#### **CHLAMYDIA**

The symptoms are runny eyes and sneezing. It causes eye sight damage and is easily passed from cat to cat. It is not curable. It is difficult to treat and control in a multi cat household.

### **WHY DO VACCINATIONS WORK?**

Your cat receives a dose of vaccine which stimulates the immune system to protect it against the disease. The body produces antibodies, proteins that recognise a disease causing agent and alert the body to destroy it before it takes hold. We have chosen a new vaccine which is non-live with no adjuvant meaning that it is very safe with no adverse reactions. It is up to date against the new strains of the diseases and viruses we look to protect against.

You can individually protect your cat but also the more people who choose to have their cat vaccinated, the better for the whole feline community. Current statistics tell us that only 30% of cats are vaccinated and it needs to be 70 % to eradicate disease in the general population. This is why we have kept our fees low to encourage people to vaccinate. We have also chosen this specific type of vaccine to give the best safety and efficacy.