



WHY FELINE VACCINATIONS ARE IMPORTANT

Vaccinating your cat against the most common and deadly cat diseases is a critical part of managing your kitty's health. A vaccination helps prepare your kitty's immune system for combating future disease. Vaccines contain antigens, which your kitty's immune system views as disease-causing organisms, but these antigens don't actually cause disease. Instead, the vaccine will mildly stimulate the immune system. Then, if your kitty is ever exposed to the actual disease, his or her immune system will be prepared to recognize it and fight it off entirely or reduce its severity.

Feline vaccinations fall into two categories: core vaccines (ones that are recommended for most cats), and ancillary vaccines (recommended by a veterinarian for some cats). Typically, core vaccines include panleukopenia (feline distemper), feline calicivirus, feline herpesvirus type I (rhinotracheitis), and rabies. Non-core vaccines include feline leukemia virus (FeLV), Bordetella, Chlamydia felis, feline immunodeficiency virus, and feline infectious peritonitis (FIP, Coronavirus).

Because not every cat needs to be vaccinated against every disease, it's important to discuss a vaccination protocol with your veterinarian. Factors to consider include your kitty's age, medical history, home environment, lifestyle, and current health.

The Sacramento Cat Hospital prides itself on using only PUREVAX non-adjuvanted vaccines. Many vaccines are adjuvanted,

meaning they contain an additive to help the cat's body absorb the vaccine. Unfortunately, adjuvanted vaccines have been shown to cause inflammation or even cancerous tumors at the injection site. Any time you plan to have your cat vaccinated, we recommend you confirm that a non-adjuvanted vaccine will be used.

If your kitty is current on his or her annual exam but is due for vaccinations, you can attend one of our walk-in vaccination clinics. Clinics are held every Wednesday and Saturday from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. No appointment is necessary.

If your kitty is due for his or her annual exam, please call us to schedule an appointment. Any necessary vaccinations can be given during the exam.

For more information about our vaccination clinic, including PUREVAX vaccine fees, ask for a copy of our vaccination clinic handout (or download it from the "Informational Handouts" section of our web site).

And be sure not miss our May special offer for a discount on vaccinations!

FELINE FLEA CONTROL

The hottest time of the year is almost here, and along with the heat will come fleas.

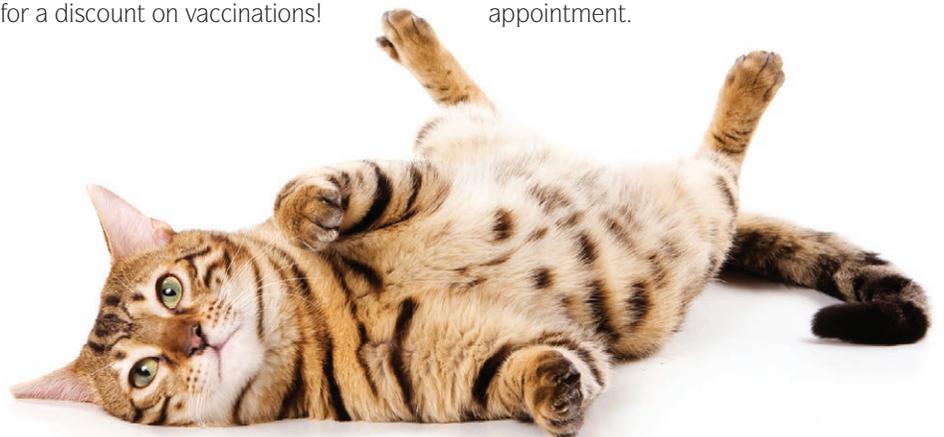
In addition to giving painful, itchy bites to furry and non-furry family members alike, fleas are carriers of a number of diseases that can affect your kitty—or you. This includes heartworms, tapeworms, Feline Infectious Anemia, and bartonella (also called Cat Scratch Disease). Some kitties can suffer a severe allergic reaction to flea bites, causing them to scratch themselves raw in bitten areas.

Fortunately, there are a number of easy-to-administer monthly feline topical medications that our veterinarians can prescribe which will help prevent flea infestations. Please ask us for more information.



MAY SPECIAL OFFERS FOR OUR READERS

Through May 31, **receive \$5 off every vaccination!** Please stop by our front desk for more information or to schedule your appointment.



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