



YOUR CAT'S HEALTH, OUR PASSION • VOLUME 4, ISSUE 11 • NOVEMBER 2012 NEWSLETTER

FELINE VACCINATIONS: WHAT EXACTLY DO THEY PREVENT?

In previous issues of our newsletter, we've discussed the importance of vaccinating your kitty against the most common and serious cat diseases. This month, we discuss the specific illnesses that your kitty's core vaccines will help prevent.

The first core vaccine is **FVRCP**, which protects against three contagious diseases:

- **FVR** (Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis), a severe upper respiratory infection that is most dangerous for young kittens and older cats. The virus (caused by the feline herpes virus) is extremely contagious, and can leave some cats with permanent respiratory system and optical damage.
- **C** (Calicivirus). Calicivirus can cause a range of illnesses from mild infection to life-threatening pneumonia. More-dangerous strains can be deadly to young kittens and older kitties.
- **P** (Panleukopenia, also known as feline distemper). Feline distemper is a highly contagious, often fatal disease that is most severe in young kittens, but can affect cats of all ages.

Kittens typically receive a series of three FVRCP vaccinations, usually at the age of 8, 12, and 16 weeks. A booster vaccination is typically given annually.

The second core vaccine is **rabies**. Rabies, an acute viral disease of the central nervous system, is a severe, invariably fatal disease. The rabies vaccination is usually given at the age of 16 weeks, with a booster typically given annually.

The third core vaccine is **FelV** (feline leukemia virus). This virus causes suppression of a kitty's immune system, leading to infections and diseases of the blood that include anemia, leukemia, lymphoma, and others. It's the most common cause of feline cancer.

Kittens typically receive a series of two FelV vaccinations, with the first given at the age of 8 weeks, followed by the second 3 weeks later. A booster vaccination is typically given annually.

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 every Wednesday or 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 administered during the exam.

We use 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.

For more information, please ask for a copy of our vaccination clinic handout.

SACRAMENTO CAT HOSPITAL'S 4TH ANNUAL PET FOOD DRIVE

On Saturday, December 1, we will host our 4th Annual Pet Food Drive, benefiting Titanic's Pantry (the Sacramento Pet Food Bank).

Pet food drive hours will be 9:00 am to 2:00 pm at the Sacramento Cat Hospital.

Your donation of unopened and unexpired cat and dog food, canned or dry, will benefit hungry pets throughout our city. Donations of leashes, collars, cat litter, bedding, and other pet supplies are also welcome.

If you're unable to make it to the pet food drive, you can still help. Just drop off your donation of cat food, dog food, or pet supplies anytime between now and December 1.

RAFFLE TO BENEFIT OUR BENEVOLENT FUND

Through December 1, we'll be holding a raffle to benefit the Sacramento Cat Hospital Foundation Benevolent Fund, established to provide treatment for injured, sick, and feral cats. You have a chance to win two great prizes!

- A brand-new Apple iPad mini 16GB Wi-Fi. *Value: \$329!*
- Complete feline wellness exam and diagnostics at the Sacramento Cat Hospital. *Approximate value: \$270!*

Ask us for more details!

NOVEMBER SPECIAL OFFER FOR OUR READERS

Through November 30, receive **\$5 off one vaccination, or \$10 off two!** (Maximum \$10 discount per kitty.) Please speak with us for more information.

Don't miss an issue of our newsletter! Sign up to receive each month's issue by email. To subscribe, just go to www.sacramentocathospital.com, or speak with one of our team members.

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