

Get to Know Your Dogs Vaccines



Bordetella – Helps lessen the severity and chances of transmission of Canine Cough which is often referred to as “Kennel Cough”. It is a highly contagious infectious disease of the upper respiratory tract. Common signs are coughing, retching, sneezing and nasal discharge. It is spread through direct contact, air (cough or sneeze) and contamination (hands, clothing, and other surfaces). It is treated with antibiotics and cough suppressants.



Leptospirosis – This is a bacterial disease that can lead to kidney and/or liver failure and may be fatal. Leptospirosis is zoonotic, meaning it can be passed to humans. Common signs in dogs include; fever, loss of appetite, lethargy, vomiting, diarrhea and jaundice (yellowing of the tissues). Your dog can contract Leptospirosis by drinking, swimming or walking through contaminated water areas frequented by wildlife. The bacteria is passed from the wildlife through their urine into water sources. Treatment can be costly and extensive as hospitalization is often required.



Lyme – Protects against Lyme disease. Lyme disease is transmitted to pets through the bite of a tick. Lyme disease symptoms include lameness, fever, lack of appetite and swollen joints. We recommend checking if your dog is positive for any tick-borne diseases once a year, this is often done in conjunction with the heartworm test at your pet’s annual visit. Most often treated with an extended course of antibiotics which can be costly.



Canine Influenza – The “dog flu” is a highly contagious and difficult to treat respiratory disease spread through direct contact, air or contaminated surfaces. Symptoms include coughing, runny nose, decreased appetite and lethargy. A cough from Canine Influenza is often much more persistent and often will not respond to antibiotics.



DAP – DAP stands for Distemper, Adenovirus and Parvovirus.

Distemper is a highly contagious viral disease that attacks multiple body systems resulting in a widespread infection that is difficult to treat and most often fatal. Symptoms include fever, anorexia, diarrhea, seizures and difficulty walking.

Adenovirus is an infection canine hepatitis which is a dangerous liver condition. Along with the liver, it also effects the kidneys, eyes, brain and the ability to clot.

Parvovirus is most common in dogs 4 months old or younger. Symptoms include bloody diarrhea, vomiting, weight loss and shock. The only treatment is aggressive symptomatic care.



Rabies – This is an incurable virus that attacks the brain and spinal cord. It is a fatal disease that affects mammals (including humans). It is transmitted when one infected animal bites another. Symptoms include aggression, depraved appetite, paralysis and seizures. There is no treatment, only prevention.