



“Purr”fect Kitten Needs

Vaccines: Our hospital carries as many adjuvant –free vaccines as are available for our feline patients safety!

FVRCP+C (or FVRCP): Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis (Herpes), Calci virus, Panleukopenia, and Chlamydia.

These feline viruses are highly contagious, causing “flu-like” and upper respiratory disease. The vaccine is often referred to as 4-in-1 (or 3-in-1 if Chlamydia is absent). The FVRCP+C vaccine series starts at 6weeks of age in kittens and continues every 3 weeks until the kitten is 16 weeks or older. Then the cat is revaccinated annually with the FVRCP vaccine. Adult cats or kittens older than 16 weeks need a vaccine and 1 booster to get adequate immunity.

Feline Leukemia: Leukemia is one of the most common causes of illness and death among cats. This vaccine is also known as FeLV and should be given to ALL kittens. FeLV disease is very common in our area; it is highly contagious and fatal once contracted. The Vaccine is given at 8 weeks of age and boosted once 3 weeks later, and then every year.

Rabies: Rabies vaccines are given at 12 weeks of age or older. The first vaccine is only good for 1 year, and then they are boosted every 3 years as required by WV state law. We now also offer an adjuvant free 3 year vaccine for rabies prevention in cats. This vaccine is the safest on the market for our feline patients and in highly recommended in all cats.

****Note: The FVRCP, FeLV, and Rabies is required to board/kennel/groom your cat!****

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus: FIV in felines is similar to the HIV virus in humans. It is a highly contagious disease in outdoor cats and unneutered cats. The disease compromises the immune system, making the cat susceptible to ordinary viruses and colds. These infections may prove to be fatal because of the cat’s lowered immune response. The FIV vaccine is given at any time over 9 weeks of age and requires 2 boosters and then annual vaccination.

It is important to test all kittens and cats for FeLV and FIV prior to giving these vaccines or if ANY illness develops.

Feline Bordatella: This vaccine prevents one of the most common causes of upper respiratory infections in cats. It should be given to ALL cats because of the airborne nature of the infection. The bordetella vaccine is given after 4 weeks of age and boosted annually.

Intestinal Parasite: All cats and kittens should be checked yearly for parasites (worms) through a fecal exam and then dewormed as needed. Cats on monthly heartworm prevention will get an intestinal parasite medication monthly as well; all others should be dewormed at least once every 3 months.

Heartworm Prevention: Cats, like dogs, can get heartworms from mosquito bites. Even indoor only cats are at risk and have been proven to be positive for heartworms. Heartworms in cats are much more likely to cause sudden death, and there is no treatment for heartworm in a cat. So it is very important that all cats be on a monthly prevention. In addition to preventing heartworms, Revolution monthly also prevents fleas, deworms for roundworms and hookworms (intestinal parasites), and treats ear mites, lice and mange in the cat.

Annual Exams: Exams allow the veterinarian a chance to catch problems early while they are easily treatable and possibly prevent problems entirely! It is also a time for you and your children to learn a lot about pet care specific to your pet. Feel free to ask questions about your cat's medical and behavioral health throughout the exam. Remember, 1 human year is approximately equal to 5 cat years! It is important to have a veterinarian provide a complete exam at least once every year.

Fleas and Ticks: There are many forms of flea and tick control available for your house, the yard, and your pet. We will recommend the best product based on your pet's living environment and needs. **Cats are very sensitive to pesticides, so we never recommend over the counter medications for flea control. Many are deadly to cats!**

Spay or Neuter: Spaying and neutering can be done as early as 4 months of age (when the kitten has been fully vaccinated). This is extremely important unless the pet is to be used in a breeding program. Overpopulation of cats leads to euthanasia daily as well as advancement of contagious diseases. In addition to the stray cat problem, unneutered cats have a long list of undesirable traits (heat cycles with bleeding and behavior changes, spraying urine, desire to roam in search of a mate, marking territory, aggression, increased risk of disease, increased risk of cancers....).

*Working together for the health of your pet,
The Doctors and Team of Hurricane Animal
Hospital*