

Vaccines Offered in PALS Program

CORE VACCINE FOR DOGS:

The American Animal Hospital Association and Canadian Veterinary Medical Association recommend that all dogs receive vaccination for the following diseases. The vaccine for these diseases is a combination and is given in one injection:

- CANINE DISTEMPER- this virus causes neurological, respiratory and gastrointestinal disease which can be fatal. There is no cure, treatment is only symptomatic.
- ADENOVIRUS- this virus causes canine infectious hepatitis (a serious infection of the liver) as well as respiratory issues and eye damage. This infection can be fatal.
- PARAINFLUENZA- this virus causes an upper respiratory tract infection (kennel cough) in dogs; it can possibly progress to pneumonia.
- PARVOVIRUS- this virus causes severe vomiting and diarrhea in dogs. It can be extremely serious in puppies and may lead to sudden death.

CORE VACCINE FOR CATS:

The American Association for Feline Practitioners and the Canadian Veterinary Medical Association recommend that all cats receive vaccination for the following diseases. The vaccine for these diseases is a combination and is given in one injection:

- HERPES VIRUS- this virus causes an upper respiratory tract infection in cats that can be re-occurring and flare in times of stress. Risk of exposure is high.
- CALICIVIRUS- this virus can also cause an upper respiratory tract infection in cats and is relatively common so the risk of exposure is high.
- PANLEUKOPENIA- this is a virus that causes severe vomiting and diarrhea in cats. It can be extremely serious in kittens and may lead to sudden death.

RABIES

Rabies vaccination is also considered a core vaccine. It is a reportable neurological disease and once contracted it is most often fatal. It is also zoonotic (can be transmitted to humans). The Province of Alberta strongly recommends all pets are vaccinated for rabies as the vaccine is very effective and the likelihood of contracting rabies once properly vaccinated is extremely low.

The above vaccines are very effective in preventing infection. For those conditions where more than one pathogen can be involved (i.e. respiratory infections), vaccination can help reduce the severity of disease. A single vaccination is not enough to provide long lasting immunity. A booster vaccination for all the above vaccines is recommended. Please consult with your regular veterinarian on a vaccine schedule that is appropriate for your individual pet based on their health and lifestyle.



FURTHER INFORMATION:

<https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/documents/vaccination-and-your-dog-animal-owners>

<https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/documents/vaccination-and-your-cat>

<https://www.canadianveterinarians.net/documents/rabies-fact-sheet-animal-owners>

<https://www.albertaanimalhealthsource.ca/content/sharpen-your-pet-vaccine-know%E2%80%90how>

<https://www.alberta.ca/rabies-prevention.aspx>