



CAYMAN ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Diseases affecting cats

Which cat diseases do we vaccinate against?

The main diseases that we vaccinate dogs against are Cat Flu (Calici and Herpes virus) and Feline Leukemia. These are all disease that can cause your cat significant illness and distress. They are also highly contagious and commonly prove fatal.

- “Cat Flu” – actually caused by 2 viruses – Calcivirus and Herpes virus. Causes sneezing, oral and nasal discharge, oral ulcers.
- Feline Leukaemia Virus (FeLV) – transmitted by direct contact with other cats. Once your cat catches this virus there is only a small chance that it can be eliminated from the body. Often cats with FeLV have a shorter life and may develop some form of cancer.
- **Rabies** - Rabid cats may display a "dumb" form, characterized by listlessness, weakness, and paralysis, or the "furious" form of rabies characterized by abnormal aggression. Less commonly, cats may just have signs of drooling with their tongue hanging out.

Cayman is Rabies Free and the government exercise a strict vaccine regime for all animals entering the country. Rabies vaccinations are only given by the Government Vet at the Department of Agriculture based on Agricola Drive, Lower Valley.

How often should we vaccinate?

Kitten vaccinations are typically given at 8 weeks and 12 weeks of age. This protection doesn't typically last for the rest of their lives therefore "Booster" vaccinations are needed and these are **vital** to continue that protection that has been started. Many owners have their kitten vaccinated but don't realize that they must see their vet each year for a booster. This is also a time when your pet is given a full health check and an opportunity for you to ask any questions that you may have about your pet's health.

Currently our vaccination protocol is under review to fall in-line with the regulations recently presented by the World Health Organization. Certain vaccines still require a yearly booster



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whereas other diseases only need boosting every 3 years. Our doctor's will be able to advise you accordingly.

PLEASE NOTE: all pets traveling to other countries MUST maintain an annual vaccination protocol for the 5 common core diseases and Rabies vaccination.

So if your pet's vaccinations are not up-to-date, contact the hospital now and benefit from our "VIP Rewards Program".