



CAYMAN ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Diseases affecting dogs

Which dog diseases do we vaccinate against?

The main diseases that we vaccinate dogs against are Distemper, Infectious Hepatitis, Parvovirus and Leptospirosis. These are all disease that can cause your dog significant illness and distress. They are also highly contagious and commonly prove fatal.

- **Distemper** - causes runny eyes and nose, coughing, vomiting, thickened foot-pads.
- **Infectious Hepatitis** - causes high temperature, painful abdomen, vomiting, diarrhoea, jaundice.
- **Parvovirus** - vomiting, bloody diarrhoea, abdominal pain, dehydration.
- **Parainfluenza** - characteristic hacking cough, discharge from nose and fever.
- **Leptospirosis**- is commonly carried by rats and spread in their urine which commonly contaminates watercourses. Causes depression, fever can cause kidney failure and liver damage and jaundice and is also a serious health risk to people.

- **Rabies** - Rabid dogs may display a "dumb" form, characterized by listlessness, weakness, and paralysis, or the "furious" form of rabies characterized by abnormal aggression. Less commonly, dogs 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?

Puppy vaccinations are typically given at 8weeks, 12weeks and 16 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 puppy or kitten vaccinated but don't realize that they must see their vet each year for a



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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 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".