



## ILLNESSES VACCINES TRY TO PREVENT

### Rabies

A deadly disease that affects the nervous system (brain) and, once symptoms show, there is no treatment available.

### Parvo

A highly contagious and infectious gastrointestinal illness in puppies and young dogs and, without treatment, it could be deadly.

### Distemper

A potentially fatal disease that attacks the respiratory, gastrointestinal and nervous systems of dogs.

### Adenovirus

A virus that causes upper respiratory tract infections that could affect the liver and is potentially deadly.

### Parainfluenza

A contagious, non-life-threatening cold-like condition that causes coughing and can lead to diseases like kennel cough.

### Leptospirosis

A bacterial illness causing symptoms like high temperature, severe thirst, increased urination and abdominal pain. It may cause permanent kidney / liver damage.

### Kennel Cough

A harsh cough that leads to gagging and vomiting. If left untreated it can develop into severe bronchopneumonia.

### Rhinotracheitis

An upper respiratory or pulmonary infection in cats that is caused by the herpes virus, affecting vision and respiration.

### Calicivirus

An infectious virus that is one of the main causes of respiratory infections in cats.

### Panleukopenia

A viral disease in cats, often called feline distemper, that is highly contagious and can be fatal, especially in kittens.

### Feline Leukaemia

A virus that can be lethal if not defeated by the animal's immune system.



## WHEN SHOULD YOU VACCINATE YOUR PET?

Young puppies / kittens are protected by immunity passed on from their mother. This decreases quickly, hence the need for puppy or kitten vaccinations and, thereafter, annual vaccination boosters, to ensure your pet remains protected.

TAH Animal Hospital advocates a modern, balanced approach to companion veterinary medicine. We equip pet owners with preventative health care management which allows their pets to live the best life they can.

### FOR EMERGENCIES CONTACT

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#### Diep River (Peninsula Vet)

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#### Durbanville

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#### Goodwood

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#### Kenilworth (CAMC)

78 Rosmead Ave  
021 674 0034

#### Kenridge

78 De Bron Str  
021 914 0886

#### Kloof

86 High Level Rd  
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#### Parow

20 Frans Conradie Dr  
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#### Sitari

Sitari Village Mall  
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# PET VACCINATIONS

One of the most important preventative measures you can take to protect your pet from viral and bacterial diseases - which could be fatal - is vaccinating your pet.

Pets tend to explore and are very likely to come into contact with an infectious disease – whether in an airborne state or through bodily fluids. During such an encounter, the immune system mounts a response to protect the pet against the diseases that may cause an infection. A healthy pet and a healthy immune system are required to build these protective antibodies in response to a vaccine. Vaccinations teach the immune system to recognise infectious agents so that it is ready to respond to a disease.

Most of the diseases we vaccinate our pets against have no cure and, as a result, veterinary treatment largely supports the animal in the hope that their immune system can overcome the infection.



### THE ROLE OF THE IMMUNE SYSTEM

A pet's immune system plays a huge role in how the pet reacts to vaccinations. There are, however, steps that a pet owner can take to enhance their pet's immune system and ensure that vaccines work best:

- Stick to the vaccination protocol.
- If your pet has not had the puppy or kitten injections at the appropriate time, you can still bring in your pet to be vaccinated.
- Ensure that your pet follows a healthy diet and adheres to its deworming schedule.
- Protect your pet against external parasites (like fleas, ticks and mosquitoes that can spread harmful illnesses to your pet), as well as internal parasites (like roundworms, hookworms, tapeworms and coccidia) that could potentially be deadly.
- Minimise exposure to diseases prior to the body developing its own vaccination response / protection.



### BENEFITS OF VACCINATING

- Diseases that were once widespread and deadly can now be prevented thanks to the efficacy of vaccinations.
- Vaccinations safeguard your pet's health.
- Vaccines protect you and your family. Some serious diseases like rabies and leptospirosis are transmittable from pets to people, and vaccinating your pet is crucial to the safety of your family.



### WHAT VACCINATIONS ARE NEEDED?

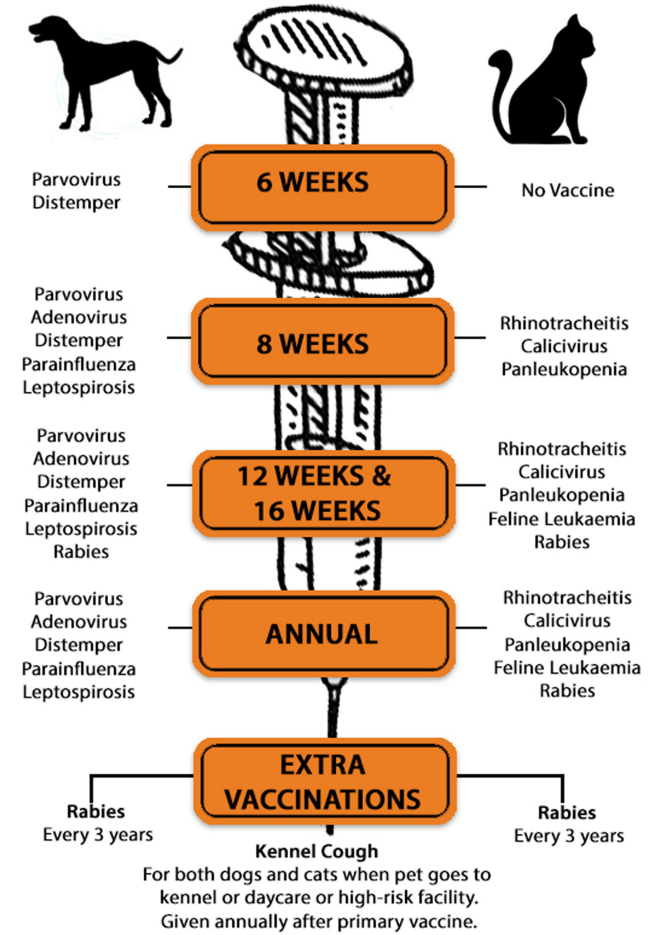
You and your vet will have to work out a preventative care programme for your pet. The vet will look at which diseases will be prevalent in your area and lifestyle, as this will influence which vaccines need to be administered.

For instance, if a puppy will be going to puppy classes, puppy daycare or kennels, the kennel cough vaccination needs to be added to their vaccine regime.



### WHY DOES A PET NEED ANNUAL VACCINATIONS?

- One vaccination will not provide life-long coverage against some of the diseases.
- To prevent diseases from spreading in the canine or feline population.
- Your pet may require vaccinations to travel with you.
- Many kennels and trainers require your pets to be vaccinated if you want to use their services.
- Even if you keep your pets indoors, many contagious diseases are spread by air so they are still at risk of infection.



This may be different if you are travelling abroad or to high-risk areas.



### VACCINES DO NOT ONLY BENEFIT SINGLE ANIMALS

Vaccinations benefit an individual animal and also the community. The fewer pets are vaccinated the more susceptible they are to illnesses and the more prevalent the disease is. Protecting your pet helps to protect everyone else's pets as well because the more pets that are immune to a disease, the more difficult it will be for a disease to spread.