



We would like to welcome you to Blue Cross Veterinary Hospital!

We would like to provide you with some general information about preventative health care for your feline friend!

Any pet that has recently been adopted from a shelter or pet store are at risk of developing an illness for a period of 7-14 days. This is because many infectious diseases are spread via air or close contact. Be careful about exposing your cat to any other cats until you are certain it is healthy. Additionally, if your cat is going to be allowed outside of your home, try to delay this until all vaccines have been completed.

KITTEN VACCINATIONS:

At 7-8 weeks the 1st round FVRCP vaccine is given – *indoor/outdoor cats* (repeated in 3 weeks)*
At 10-11 weeks the 2nd round FVRCP & 1st FeLV (*outdoor cats*) vaccines are given (repeated in 3 weeks)
At 13-14 weeks the 3rd round FVRCP, 2nd FeLV (*outdoor cats*) vaccines are given (repeated in 3 weeks)
At 16-17 weeks the 4th FVRCP & Rabies Recombinant (*outdoor cats*) vaccines are given**

*Indoor only cats need this vaccine – it is to be repeated every 3 weeks, four times total.

**Finished with series. Vaccines are now done annually.

ADULT CAT VACCINATIONS:

FVRCP: indoor & outdoor & cats that may be boarded*

HCP: given every 3 years-indoor & outdoor

Feline Leukemia: outdoor*

Rabies Recombinant: given annually

*Minimal 2 vaccine series when no vaccine history is known, then annually.

Physical Exams should be done annually as a health preventative since their first year of life is about fifteen years of our life. A senior (7+ years) pet requires bi-annual exams as well as a senior profile, which includes a full blood panel and a urinalysis.

Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) This blood test should be performed on all kittens and all new cats. This is a simple blood test that can be completed in approximately 15 minutes. This test should also be performed on all cats with an unknown history or a history of bite wounds/fights with other cats. Feline leukemia is the leading cause of death among outdoor unvaccinated cats. Symptoms are variable including weight loss, fever, anemia, chronic infections, and many more. There is no cure for this disease.

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) This blood test should be performed on all kittens and all new cats. This blood test should be performed on all cats that have an unknown history or a history of bite wounds/fights with other cats. FIV is an immunosuppressive disease of cats similar to the HIV virus in people. This virus does not affect humans. Symptoms are variable including gum & mouth infections, diarrhea, weight loss, etc. There is no cure for this disease.

Flea Control: We recommend a safe topical flea killer that is applied monthly and purchased from any veterinary hospital to ensure the products' efficacy. For environmental control, we recommend *Program*. This product is a birth control for fleas not a flea killer. Program is available in an injectable form that lasts for 6 months. We also carry *Siphrotrol*- environmental spray. Not all topical flea controls are made equal. There are many OTC flea control products that can cause feline death. Our staff can help by providing a customized, safe flea control plan that's best for your household.

Spay or Neuter your cat between 4-6 months of age. This is also a good time to place microchips.

Microchips can be placed anytime. This is an identification chip placed under the skin in the shoulder blade region. When the animal shelter picks up any lost or injured pet, it will be scanned. If a chip number is identified, you will be contacted to pick up your pet.

Fecal & Giardia Test: This should be checked on all new pets at the initial visit. Some parasites found in the feces are zoonotic (can be transferred to humans). Repeat testing is recommended at least annually. Internal parasites are prevalent enough for the CDC to recommend testing 4 times a year.

Always feel free to call if you have any questions or problems (562) 494-0975.

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