

## Kitten Primary Vaccination Consult FAQ

### What does the vaccination cover?

- Feline calicivirus
- Feline herpes
- Feline panleukopenia virus
- FeLV (we recommend this for any cat who has access to outside)

More information on these diseases is available on the BVA (British Veterinary Association) website. [https://www.bva.co.uk/media/2649/client\\_leaflet\\_9\\_-\\_getting\\_your\\_pet\\_vaccinated.pdf](https://www.bva.co.uk/media/2649/client_leaflet_9_-_getting_your_pet_vaccinated.pdf)

### When do I need to have the second vaccination?

The second vaccination needs to be given 3-4 weeks after the date of the 1<sup>st</sup> vaccination, and your kitten must be over 12 weeks old at this point.

### What if I go over/miss the second vaccination?

Unfortunately, if the primary course has not been given according to the guidelines, there is no guarantee of immunity. We would therefore advise you contact us to see if we need to restart the vaccination course.

### Will there be any side effects to my kitten's vaccination?

Side effects are rare. Kittens may be slightly sleepier for the rest of the day following vaccination, but should be back to normal the following day. If you are concerned about any side effects or vaccine reactions then please contact us.

### When can my kitten go out?

Your kitten will be covered, 4 weeks after the 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination. However, we would recommend waiting until your cat is neutered before allowing them outside, to avoid unwanted pregnancy and roaming.

### What about flea treatment and worming?

There are many products out there to cover parasite prevention in our cats. We advise the following protocols which are included in our Pet Health Care plan (see below).

#### Protocol 1:

- Prinocate spot-on every month (covers fleas, mites, roundworms.)
- Anthelmin tablet or Droncit spot-on every 3 months (covers tapeworm.)

#### Protocol 2: (Cat Plus Pet Healthcare Plan)

- Nexgard combo spot-on (covers ticks, fleas, mites, roundworms and tapeworm all in one.)

Please note the 'spot-on' treatment is to be applied to the skin on the back of the neck, so as to avoid ingestion of the product.

## What is the VIP Pet Health Care Plan you offer?

Our VIP scheme covers all of your pet's preventative health care needs, including vaccinations, flea and worming products amongst other extras - including discounts on neutering and out-of-hours emergency care. It is set up as a monthly direct debit to help spread the cost of your pet's care over the year, meaning you can just collect your flea and worming products as you need them. For more information, please visit our website.

Please note this is not an insurance policy (see below.)

## What about a microchip?

We would recommend all cats have a microchip placed. This can be done at the 2<sup>nd</sup> vaccination or if you prefer, when they are under general anaesthetic for their neutering. We ask that you ensure you notify the ID chip company of your contact details, so they can register those details to your pet's ID chip number on the National Database. (Details will be provided once chipped.)

## What about neutering?

Generally, we advocate neutering in cats for its health benefits and population control. However, we believe that each pet should be considered on a case-by-case basis. Below are some of the pros/cons and some details of the procedures we can offer.

Pros	Cons
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Elimination of risk of unwanted pregnancy and population control.</li> <li>• Elimination of risk of pyometra (life-threatening uterine infection in bitches.)</li> <li>• Reduced risk of mammary cancer in females.</li> <li>• Can help with behavioural issues e.g. spraying/roaming.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Can reduce metabolic rate, making it easier for pet to gain weight, if diet and exercise not balanced.</li> <li>• Cannot breed from pet.</li> <li>• No guarantee to help behavioural issues, especially if done after it becomes a "learnt behaviour."</li> </ul>

### For Males:

- **Castration**
  - Day procedure, all required pain relief given on day. Advised to keep in for up to 48 hours post-op.
  - From 4 months and/or when they reach >2Kg

### For Females:

- **Traditional flank spay (Ovariohysterectomy- uterus and ovaries)**
  - Day procedure, given pain relief at home for 3-4 days and advised to be kept in for 10-14 days post-procedure. A post-op check is included free of charge.
  - From 5-6 months and >2Kg weight.

## **What about Insurance?**

These are exciting times in the veterinary profession, with pet care becoming increasingly more advanced, but unfortunately with no NHS for pets, unexpected vet bills can be a source of anxiety. There are many insurance companies offering pet insurance with various levels of cover and costs. Here are some guidelines of what to look for when choosing a policy.

- Lifetime policy - this means that should your pet develop a condition, it will be covered for the lifetime of your pet (and not discounted after a year.)
- At least £4000 per condition, per year.

## **What if my kitten is unwell?**

If you have concerns regarding the health of your kitten, please do not hesitate to contact us on 01202 484466. We may be able to advise you over the phone or book you an appointment to see one of our vets. If you have concerns outside of normal opening hours, we have our own out-of-hours service, based at our hospital in Christchurch, with 24-hour nursing care. Just call the normal number and follow the instructions to contact the on-duty vet. Please note: There is a surcharge for emergency consults out-of-hours.

**If you have any concerns or questions, please do not hesitate to contact us.**