

Vaccinations For Dogs

This information is applicable to dogs in South East Queensland Australia.

If you live elsewhere please check with your Vet.

Why should I vaccinate my dog?

Vaccination is the only way to protect your dog against serious viral diseases that are contagious.

When should I begin vaccinations for my dog?

It is important that as soon as you get your dog or puppy, you consult a vet and discuss a vaccination schedule.

Generally vaccinations begin at 4 to 6 weeks and thereafter boosters are given at 4 to 6 week intervals until the puppy is 18 to 20 weeks of age.. The immunity a puppy receives from its mother gradually decreases

Annual vaccinations are then given for life.

Are there alternative medicines I can use?

There are some claims made that there are alternatives. However vaccination is the only scientifically proven, evidence based preventative.

This is the reason why boarding kennels and training classes will only accept vaccinated dogs.

(An article Mysticism and/or rigor: Can science and alternative medicine shake hands? <http://columbia.edu/cu/21stC/issue-3.4/walker.html>) is an interesting article.

Can my dog be vaccinated less frequently?

This may be possible so please discuss with your vet.

What are the side effects of vaccinations?

Your dog may be a bit “off colour” and may have swelling and tenderness around the injection site “(Box Hill Veterinary Hospital <http://bhvet.com.au/dogvac.php>)



These Diseases Can Kill!

Vaccination, Can Save Your Dog !

Disease	Clinical Signs	Who is at Risk?	Prevention
Canine Distemper	Fever, Diarrhoea, Vomiting, Depression, Muscle Tremors Paralysis	All dogs , particularly young puppies	Vaccination
Infectious Hepatitis	Vomiting, Diarrhoea, Depression, Abdominal Pain	All dogs, most severe in dogs under 2 years	Vaccination
Canine Parvovirus	Vomiting, Bloody Diarrhoea, Abdominal Pain	Most severe in the very young and very old	Vaccination
Canine Cough	Hacking cough. Not normally fatal but can be prolonged.	All Dogs	Vaccination
Canine Coronavirus	Vomiting, Fever Diarrhoea Loss of appetite Depression,	All Dogs	Vaccination

Information obtained from

Box Hill Veterinary Hospital (<http://www.bhvet.com.au/petcare/dogvac.php>)

Claws and Paws Veterinary Hospital (<http://www.cpvh.com/Articles/8.html>)

