



# Feline Vaccines

Vaccinating your pet is an important part of maintaining his or her health; however, it can be confusing to know which vaccines your pets need. It is always important to talk to your veterinary care provider to help decide which vaccines are right for the lifestyle of your pet. The following chart is designed to help provide some basic information on the vaccines we have available at the Sechelt Animal Hospital. It gives some brief information on the diseases targeted by the vaccine and the risk factors for contracting those diseases.

VACCINE	DISEASE(S) TARGETED	DISEASE DESCRIPTION	RISK FACTORS FOR DISEASE
<p>5way (recommended for kittens and all outdoor cats) In kittens this vaccine is recommended to be given 3 times at 8 weeks of age, 12 weeks of age and 16 weeks of age and then annually for outdoor adult cats.</p>	<p>Rhinotracheitis Calicivirus Panleukopenia Chlamydia Feline Leukemia</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• <b>Rhinotracheitis-</b> is caused by a herpesvirus and causes upper respiratory tract infections (sneezing, fever, nasal discharge, conjunctivitis, eye discharge, anorexia and dehydration). Like many herpesvirus infections the symptoms can reoccur throughout the lifetime of the cat when the cat is stressed or its immune system is weakened. The vaccine decreases severity of the disease but does not prevent infection.</li> <li>• <b>Calicivirus-</b> a highly contagious virus that causes upper respiratory tract infections sneezing, fever, nasal discharge, conjunctivitis, ocular discharge, anorexia and dehydration). The vaccine decreases severity of the disease but does not prevent infection.</li> <li>• <b>Panleukopenia-</b> also known as feline distemper this disease is caused by parvovirus. This virus causes a severe and often fatal hemorrhagic gastroenteritis (bloody diarrhea and vomiting), fever, anorexia and dehydration in kittens. The most severe and important feline infectious disease.</li> <li>• <b>Chlamydia-</b> is caused by a bacterium that causes a chronic respiratory infection characterized by conjunctivitis and mild upper respiratory disease. The vaccine decreases severity of the disease but does not prevent infection.</li> <li>• <b>Feline Leukemia-</b> is a retrovirus (similar to HIV) that causes the immune system to fail and a neoplastic (cancer) disease. All body systems can be affected.</li> </ul>	<p><b>Rhinotracheitis-</b> housing in close contact with multiple other cats (shelters and multi-cat households at greatest risk), lack of vaccinations, and if cat has a weak immune system.</p> <p><b>Calicivirus-</b> housing in close contact with multiple other cats (shelters and multi-cat household's ar greater risk). Concurrent infection with herpesvirus or other viruses. Lack of vaccination.</p> <p><b>Panleukopenia-</b> Unvaccinated cats. Vaccination is of the utmost importance in preventing this deadly disease.</p> <p><b>Chlamydia-</b> housing in close contact with multiple other cats (shelters and multi-cat household's ar greater risk). Concurrent infection with other respiratory viruses and infections.</p> <p><b>Feline Leukemia-</b> Spread by cat-to-cat transmission (ie. Bite wounds, close contact like grooming, shared food dishes, litter pans, and sexual transmission). It can also be spread from mother to kittens.</p>
<p>4way (For indoor only adult cats)</p>	<p>Rhinotracheitis Calicivirus Panleukopenia Chlamydia</p>	<p>See above</p>	<p>See above</p>
<p>Rabies</p>	<p>Rabies</p>	<p>Rabies is a virus that causes neurological signs, excessive salivation, and paralysis and is always fatal. It is transmissible to humans. It is spread from bites inflicted by infected wildlife (bats, raccoons, skunk, foxes, etc).</p>	<p>Outdoor pets should receive this vaccine as it has huge human health risks as well.</p>

