**Rabies**

Rabies is required by law for animals over 12 weeks of age.

**What animal should get rabies vaccinated?**

* Rabies is required by law for animals over 12 weeks of age.
* Even if your animal does not go outside, rabies is a risk.
  + Animals carrying rabies, such as bats, can make their way into your home and bite without you knowing.

**Distemper (FVCRP)**

This vaccine protects cats against the most common feline viruses including panleukopenia, also known as distemper (a deadly virus causing vomiting, diarrhea, and neurologic issues). Kittens will need monthly boosters until they are 18 weeks old.

**What animals need distemper (FVCRP) vaccinated?**

* All cats
* Even if your animal is an only cat in the household, you can still track disease in with you that can cause your cat to become ill.

**Leukemia (FeLV)**

This vaccine protects cats against Leukemia disease. In addition to testing for Feline Leukemia Virus, we have a vaccination to prevent FeLV. Cats can contract FeLV in 3 ways: passed by their mother during pregnancy, passing infected blood to non-infected cats, and by saliva of an infected cat licking the eye, mouth, and nose membranes of a non-infected cat.

**What animals should be vaccinated?**

* Outdoor cats
* Kittens - to lower the possibility of contracting FeLV, all kittens should be given two FeLV shots.

\*Note: the first time this vaccine is given, it needs a booster in 3-4 weeks. After the first year, the shot can be given once yearly.

**Dewormer**

While technically not a vaccination, dewormer is important. Most animals are born with or get intestinal worms from their mothers. Worms interfere with weight gain and can cause anemia, diarrhea, vomiting, and low blood protein.

**What animals should have dewormer?**

* All kittens should be dewormed.
* Cats having diarrhea
* Cats that have been exposed to/live with other animals who test positive for hookworm and/or roundworm.

**FeLV/FIV Test**

Also not technically a vaccination, FeLV/FIV tests are extremely important. We recommend that all cats be tested for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) and Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV). These are contagious and potentially deadly viruses that cats can get from their mother or from other cats. It is especially important to test if you have other cats at home since the cat could potentially infect them. This test requires a couple drops of blood from your cat. If you cat is not spayed/neutered yet, we can draw their blood while they are asleep for surgery so they aren’t stressed by the procedure.

**What animals should have a FeLV/FIV test?**

All animals should be tested for FeLV/FIV for 3 reasons:

1. To confirm the status of a new animal entering your household.
2. To make sure that they haven’t contracted leukemia or FIV after being exposed .
3. Outdoor cats should be tested yearly to confirm they have not contracted either.\*

\*Note: Indoor only cats do not need to be tested more than once unless they have come into contact with an untested/positive animal.