



Vaccination and Preventative Care Recommendations for ADULT CANINE (DOG) PATIENTS

Vaccination and prevention of many diseases is highly recommended in order to keep our pets and working animals healthy and safe. There are many preventable diseases that are very difficult and expensive to treat. Many of these diseases cause serious health problems that can lead to permanent damage and even death. Prevention keeps our patients healthier, increases their life expectancy, improves performance and athletic ability, and is often much less expensive than treating the diseases after they become a problem.

VACCINATIONS:

Rabies: REQUIRED by LAW. The first vaccine is valid for 1 year, boosters are valid for 3 years if given on time. Rabies is a fatal disease that is transmissible to humans. There is no treatment or cure.

Distemper Vaccination: This vaccination protects against many viruses. It is recommended for all patients every year. The distemper vaccine includes protection against the following diseases:

Canine Distemper: a virus that attacks the respiratory and nervous system. There is no cure for distemper, this virus is highly contagious and often fatal, permanent damage can occur to the lungs, heart, and nervous tissue and patients that survive often suffer from seizures later in life.

Canine Parvo virus: a virus that attacks the gastro-intestinal system. There is no cure for parvo, this virus is highly contagious and often fatal, permanent damage can occur to the intestines, heart, and other systems.

Canine Parainfluenza: a virus that attacks the respiratory system. There is no cure for parainfluenza. This virus can cause pneumonia and may be fatal in young, old, and malnourished patients.

Canine Hepatitis: this disease attacks the liver and can cause permanent damage even death in severe cases.

Canine Leptospirosis: this disease attacks the kidneys and can cause permanent damage even death in severe cases, it is difficult to treat and is transmissible to humans.

Canine Coronavirus: a virus that attacks the gastro-intestinal tract. It is very similar to parvo although not often as severe. There is no cure for coronavirus and it can be fatal in severe cases.

Kennel cough: This vaccine protects against the most common type of kennel cough. Kennel cough can be difficult to treat and can progress to pneumonia in severe cases. Patients that go to kennels, groomers, dog parks, or hunt are the most susceptible to this disease. The vaccine is recommended every 6 months to high risk patients.

Canine Giardia: This parasite is in swamps and standing water. Patients who hunt (especially in low lying areas) are the most susceptible to this disease. The vaccine is recommended every year to high risk patients.

Canine Lyme disease: This disease is transmitted by ticks and can cause heart, joint, and blood problems. Patients who hunt or are exposed to ticks are the most susceptible to this disease. The vaccine is recommended every year to high risk patients.

Other prevention:

Heartworm Disease: This disease is transmitted by mosquito, is very common in this area, is very difficult and expensive to treat, is often fatal, and is very easy to prevent. An annual blood test and monthly prevention is recommended for all patients. (This annual test also tests for the 2 most common tick born diseases)

Fecal Test: This test is inexpensive and checks for intestinal parasites/worms. Many parasites are transmissible to humans, especially children. Parasites can cause many health problems, including death in severe cases and in young animals. Many parasites are easy to treat if caught early enough.

Deworming: All dogs and cats are susceptible to intestinal parasites. Many types of parasites are present in the soil, outdoor water supply, wildlife, and other animals. Some parasites are visible in the stool but most are too small to see. Periodic deworming helps to decrease the health problems caused by parasites and also decreases transmission rate to humans.

Please don't hesitate to ask about what preventative care program would be best suited for you and your pets...
quality preventative care improves the life of all your special family members!