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Feline Vaccinations

Feline Viral Rhinotracheitis is a viral respiratory disease that causes sneezing, fever, decreased appetite, and lethargy. Eye and nose discharges become severe. This disease can also lead to pneumonia.

Calicivirus is a viral disease that causes similar signs as those found with rhinotracheitis with the addition of severe ulcers in the mouth.

Panleukopenia is a viral disease that causes fever, depression, poor appetite, vomiting, and diarrhea. The death rate can be very high. It is very similar to parvovirus in dogs and is caused by a feline parvovirus.

We currently use a nasal vaccine to protect against these diseases. Kittens receive one vaccine at 6 to 10 weeks of age and another vaccine when they are older than 12 weeks of age. Adult cats receive the nasal vaccine yearly.

Rabies is a viral disease that can be transmitted to humans. **IT IS A 100% FATAL AND INCURABLE DISEASE.** Cats that are outdoors or go outdoors sometimes should be vaccinated for rabies. Cats can be vaccinated for rabies when 16 weeks old or older with yearly boosters given thereafter.

Feline Leukemia (FeLV) is a viral disease that is transmitted from cat to cat through direct contact. The disease is contagious and incurable. It is recommended that cats be tested for presence of the virus at approximately 8 to 10 weeks of age. If the cat does not harbor the virus then he or she can be vaccinated against the feline leukemia virus. Initial vaccination involves two vaccines one month apart followed by yearly boosters thereafter.

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a viral disease that is transmitted from cat to cat through blood contact such as cat fights involving bite wounds. Testing for this virus is usually done on cats 6 months of age or older. There is currently no good vaccine available against this virus.

ALL CATS THAT LIVE OUTDOORS OR GO OUTSIDE UNSUPERVISED SHOULD BE VACCINATED TO PROTECT AGAINST THE FELINE LEUKEMIA VIRUS.