



# HAVING YOUR PET VACCINATED

## **Does your pet need to be vaccinated?**

Vaccination is very important for cats and dogs - it protects them from some of the important diseases that could make them very ill and even kill them. If you haven't had your pet vaccinated yet, don't worry - just make sure you talk to one of our vets about it soon and they can tell you what is the right one for you.

## **How is a vaccination given?**

Usually a vaccination is given by an injection under the skin, although in the case of the Kennel Cough vaccine it is squirted into the dog's nose (as it is more effective this way). Some animals feel a little discomfort, but this is uncommon and usually resolves quickly.

## **Will one vaccination be enough?**

No - most certainly not. Both cats and dogs, as well as rabbits and ferrets, will need regular booster vaccinations throughout their lifetimes. This is very important, such that we will send you reminders as and when necessary to help you to remember to bring your pet in. One of our vets will take this opportunity to give your pet a health check at the same time.

## **Why is a booster necessary?**

Although we tend to treat our pets like little people, they are still animals and are exposed continually to potential diseases when out and about. So to protect them from the various illnesses they could pick up, we give them booster vaccinations. These can be every one to three years depending on the disease.

## **When you get your pet home from having their vaccination...**

...you can let your pet have a sleep if it wants to, but they will probably feel fine. Make food and water available as usual. They may be a little subdued for a few hours, but this should pass very soon.

## **Make a note on your calendar...**

...to bring your pet back for its full initial course and then its booster in 12 months time - it is easy to forget and your pet will be at an increased risk.

## **Contact:**

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