



Getting sick can make your pet miserable  
Vaccination can keep them active and happy

### Vaccine reactions

For a day or two after receiving a vaccine, your pet may be sore at the injection site or seem sleepier than normal, as their immune system learns to fight the disease(s) they were vaccinated for. Serious vaccine reactions are rare, but can include vomiting, diarrhea, hives or swelling of the face. In a study involving over 1.2 million dogs, only 0.038 percent (only 3-4 in 10,000) had a reaction severe enough to cause their owners to bring them back to the vet, and most of those were easily treated.

(J Am Vet Med Assoc 2005;227:1102-1108)



### Have questions?

The staff at Chester Valley Veterinary Hospital would be happy to discuss the best preventative care plan for your pet.



CHESTER VALLEY VETERINARY HOSPITAL  
*helping pets enjoy every adventure*

1571 Muldoon Rd.  
Anchorage, AK 99504

(907) 333-6591  
healthypetalaska.com

# Dog Vaccinations



**Protecting pets of all ages**

Vaccinations are an important part of helping your pet live a long, healthy life.

A vaccination contains a killed or altered form of a virus or bacteria, one which cannot give your pet the disease. However, when your pet's immune system interacts with the vaccine, it learns how to combat the disease. This allows your pet's own immune system to fight off the disease if they are ever exposed, before it even begins to show symptoms.

Here at Chester Valley Veterinary Hospital, we generally recommend that dogs be kept current on rabies, bordetella and distemper/parvo vaccines, however every pet we vaccinate must have an annual exam with one of our doctors so that we can tailor a plan specifically for your pet.

Factors that may influence which vaccinations we recommend giving your pet and when they should be given may include:

- Your pet's age
- Any health concerns your pet has
- Your pet's lifestyle
- Any traveling you have done or plan to do with your pet

### **Distemper/Parvo**

This is a combination vaccine that protects against multiple contagious viral infections.

Canine Distemper is an often fatal disease that can cause severe symptoms in many different parts of your pet's body including the airways, intestines, skin and nervous system.

Parvovirus is one of the most common serious diseases we see in young dogs in Alaska, it attacks the intestines, causing diarrhea and vomiting that can quickly lead to dangerous levels of dehydration.

Parainfluenza causes respiratory infections.

Adenovirus has two different types, one causes respiratory infection, the other damages the liver, sometimes to the point of being fatal.

### **Bordetella**

Bordetella is a bacteria which causes a respiratory infection commonly known as "kennel cough". It is highly contagious and your dog can be exposed even if they are never in a boarding facility. Just walking past an infected dog on the sidewalk (or sniffing the clothing of a human who walked past an infected dog) could expose your pet to the bacteria.



Canine distemper is highly contagious, often fatal and can be prevented with simple vaccination

### **Rabies**

Rabies is a fatal virus that can infect any mammal, including humans. It is transmitted in the saliva, usually when an infected animal bites. In Alaska, foxes are the most common animals to be found positive for rabies, but any mammal could become infected. Because this disease can cause human deaths, Anchorage Animal Control requires that all dogs, cats and ferrets in the municipality be kept current on their rabies vaccination.