

CARING FOR YOUR KITTEN.

Vaccinations

Recommended vaccination protocol:

- 6-8 weeks F3 (enteritis and cat flu)
+/- Chlamydia, Feline Leukaemia (and/or Feline Aids).
- 12-14 weeks F3 (enteritis and cat flu)
+/- Chlamydia, Feline Leukaemia (and/or Feline Aids).
- Annual booster of the above combination.

The Chlamydia Organism is involved in Cat Flu. We can vaccinate for it in combination with the F3. The efficacy of the vaccination is limited and should only be used in high risk animals.

The Feline Leukaemia Virus vaccine is usually given in combination with the F3 vaccination or separately. The latest research (2009) suggests that we should be vaccinating Cats twice as kittens and at the first booster at 1 year of age with Leukaemia. Vet HQ agrees with this recommendation. If you have any concerns please ask us.

The Feline Aids Virus (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus) vaccine is now available as a separate vaccine that is in addition to the standard vaccination. A brochure is available for further information. Three initial boosters are required 2-4 weeks apart, then annual boosters. The timing of the schedules must be strictly adhered to within 2 weeks of the due date annually or the initial 3 boosters will again be required. This vaccination can be done at the same time or separately to the standard vaccination. A blood test may be required if you choose to upgrade to this vaccination later in life.

Worming

- Every 2 weeks from 6-12 weeks of age
- Monthly from 3-6 months of age
- Every 3 months for life.

Recommended products include:

- POPANTEL allwormer tablet
- MILBEMAX tablet
- FELEX paste
- REVOLUTION Topspot monthly **PLUS** a tapewormer tablet every 6 months. Please note that REVOLUTION spot-on treatment will cover the major intestinal worms **EXCEPT** for tapeworm.

Heartworm

Heartworm has been recorded in cats in Sydney. The incidence is currently lower in cats than in dogs. We do not recommend routine heartworm prophylaxis in cats at this stage.

Recommended products include:

- REVOLUTION spot-on monthly
- MILBEMAX tablets monthly

Nutrition

Diet is critical during the growth phase of your kitten. There are a wide variety of completely balanced, premium kitten foods available from us, which can be fed until 6 - 9 months of age.

Kittens should be fed 3 - 4 times a day until 6 months of age, gradually reducing meals to twice daily by one year. It is better to do twice daily feeds than once daily as an adult due to their metabolism and preventing obesity (**WE DO NOT RECOMMEND LEAVING DRY FOOD OUT ALL DAY**).

Raw chicken necks and wings fed 2 - 3 times weekly keep your inquisitive kitten occupied and assist in cleaning the teeth. This can be done from 12 weeks of age. There are premium foods and tooth brushes that aid in dental care. If you are interested in either of these, please ask one of the vets or nurses for more information. Always make sure your cat has access to plenty of cool, clean water especially in the hotter months.

Desexing

Unless you will be breeding from your cat desexing is strongly advised. Desexing greatly improves the behaviour and temperament of your cat and also provides many medical and health benefits. Desexing is usually performed around 5 to 6 months of age.

Insurance

Pet insurance is recommended. Please ask for a brochure.

Microchips

It is compulsory to microchip your cat by 12 weeks of age. Microchips are a safe and permanent means of identification. This is to comply with the NSW Companion Animals Act. Registration with your Council is required by 6 months of age.

Fleas and Ticks

Recommended products:

- **REVOLUTION** top-spot monthly. Covers against flea life cycle, round and hookworm, sarcoptic mange and ear mites.
- **FRONTLINE** top-spot monthly. Covers against flea life cycle only.
- **ADVANTAGE** top-spot monthly. Covers against flea life cycle only.
- **FRONTLINE SPRAY** every 3 weeks. Covers against fleas **AND** ticks.

Grooming service at Vet HQ

Grooming is an important part of caring for your cat and provides you with an opportunity for closer examination. If you bath your cat it is important that you use specific **cat** shampoos or rinses intended for the particular pH in your cat's skin and are safe to use.

Training

Your cat can be trained in a similar way that you would a dog, so that your kitten grows into a well behaved, happy cat.

Positive re-enforcement is the key; when your kitten does what you want, praise and cuddles will encourage your kitten to do the right thing again (for more praise and cuddles).

A well-trained cat will be a loyal and reliable friend for life and is a pleasure to own.

Boarding at Vet HQ Cat Resort

Plan well in advance for your holidays so that arrangements can be made for the care of your cat whilst you are away. Particularly in peak periods, many boarding facilities and pet care services become fully booked up.

There are many options available. At Vet HQ we offer luxury boarding for your cat in a clean, air-conditioned, caring environment.

Warnings

Please do not administer any human medications to your cat - such as Aspirin (Disprin) or Paracetamol (Panadol, Panadine etc) as they are very dangerous for cats and can be fatal. Do not use any flea products that are not registered for use in cats. Products containing pyrethrins/permethrins can be fatal for cats. Lilies cause acute renal failure if consumed by the cat.

Go to the Vet HQ website at www.vethq.com.au

For information regarding - holiday boarding options, pet-minding services, pet insurance, and much more.

Call us on 93261255

If your kitten shows any sickness, runny eyes, coughing, vomiting, diarrhoea, is off its food or if you have any questions at all, please don't hesitate to call us.