

Notes for your new puppy:

Vaccination:

We recommend the following protocol for vaccination:

6-8 weeks: C3 Vaccination (Distemper, Hepatitis, and Parvovirus)

10-12 weeks: C5:- C3 Vaccination (Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus 3 year vaccine) + C2 Bronchishield = Canine Cough (Bordatella and Parainfluenza)

14-16 weeks: C2 Bronchishield (canine cough) only unless the 12 week vaccination is not as above.

Annually: Canine cough only (C2 Bronchishield)

Triannual: C3 Vaccination (Distemper, Hepatitis, and Parvovirus)

Vaccinations are essential to ensure that your dog does not contract any potentially fatal diseases. Also, all boarding and day care facilities will require full vaccinations.

Worming:

Intestinal parasites are common in puppies. Puppies can be infected through several routes: before they are born via the placenta, through their mother's milk, as young dogs from their litter mates, and from the environment.

Worms pose a risk to immuno compromised people, especially children, and so we recommend regular intestinal worm prevention.

2-12 weeks of age: Every 2 weeks

12 weeks - 6 months: Monthly

6 months for life: Every 3 months

There are many intestinal worming products available. We recommend **Drontal^R**, **Canex^R** and **Endogard^R**. They are the best worming products on the market.

Heartworm:

Heartworm is a worm that lives in the heart and blood vessels of the lungs. It is spread by mosquitoes. It is essential that you medicate your new puppy to prevent heartworm infection that can be a fatal disease. We recommend starting heartworm prevention at 3 months of age.

There are several products that we recommend and trust.

- **Heartgard^R** medicates against heartworm and comes in a meaty chew or tablet. It must be administered orally every month.
- **Sentinel Spectrum^R** medicates against heartworm and all the gastrointestinal worms. It also aids in long term flea control by sterilizing fleas. It is a beef flavoured tablet and must be administered monthly.
- **Revolution^R** medicates against heartworm and fleas and is a topical application to the back of the neck monthly.

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- **Advocate^R** medicates against heartworm and fleas and is a topical application to the back of the neck monthly.
- **Proheart injection^R** is an injection that needs to be given at 3 months and 6 months then annually to coincide with the annual dog flu vaccination.

Fleas:

Fleas are a perpetual problem in urban areas at all times of the year. With central heating in the winter months, and more pets living inside, flea numbers are growing. One adult flea can lay up to 200 eggs per day. Fleas will cause your dog to scratch and will potentially cause nasty skin disease. No product is 100% effective and you should ask our advice if your animal's flea burden is getting out of control.

There are many products that we recommend. Year long application is advisable to avoid resistance of the compounds developing in the flea population.

- **Frontline Plus^R** is a topical application to the back of the neck that kills fleas and some larvae in the environment for up to 4 weeks and ticks for up to 2 weeks. However it is not 100% effective for ticks. Frontline^R comes in a spray form that treats fleas for up to 3 months and ticks for up to one month
- **Advantage^R** is a topical application to the back of the neck and treats fleas for up to 4 weeks. It also flakes off into the environment and kills some larvae. **Advocate^R** and **Advantix^R** combine other treatments with the same flea product and is also a topical application.
- **Revolution^R** is a topical application to the back of the neck and treats fleas for up to 4 weeks and prevents against heartworm. This product also kills ear mites and scabies mites.
- **Program^R** is an oral tablet that sterilises fleas and impairs their ability to lay eggs. It is administered monthly. The active compound is the same as in Sentinel Spectrum^R. IT DOES NOT KILL ADULT FLEAS on your pet.
- **Capstar^R** is a tablet that will kill every flea on your dog within 45 minutes. It has no residual activity.

Please discuss any other medications with your vet. There are many products on the market and it is important that you use the product according to the directions on the label. Do not double-up on medication or use a larger size as this could cause toxicity. Speak to your vet first.

Ticks can be a serious issue, although in the eastern suburbs it is not too bad. Please discuss ticks with us on an individual basis. Remember no tick treatment is 100%.

Food:

We recommend premium dry puppy formulas. These diets have all you need and more for every type of growing dog. In addition we recommend raw meaty bones for their teeth. We recommend 3-4 meals per day until 3 months of age then 2-3 meals until 6-9 months of age then 1-2 meals per day. The feeding regime is entirely up to the individual. Brands vary in quality. We recommend **Eukanuba^R** and **Hills^R**. There is nothing wrong with feeding raw meat but PLEASE do not feed the kangaroo meat for pet consumption. It is full of a preservative called sulphur dioxide that has been

proven to be detrimental to the health of animals. We also recommend raw meaty bones (i.e. chicken wings and necks and beef knuckles).

For training purposes we recommend **Vets Best Rewards^R**, dried liver treats. They don't smell and are very tasty. Using treats facilitates the training process, but only use in moderation, as they are high in fat.

Training:

Puppy socialisation is crucial to a happy and interactive puppy. We run puppy classes all year. Please ask one of our receptionists for more information. The classes cover all the basics of training. If there are more specific details that you wish to discuss do not hesitate to ask one of our veterinarians. We also can offer you a consultation with our in-house dog trainer Liarne Henry (K9trainer.com.au) who may be able to help you further. She also can do home visits for your convenience.

Desexing:

We strongly encourage all animals to be kept as pets to be desexed at 6 months of age. Male dogs that are desexed are often calmer and better behaved. They do not wander and they have a reduced likelihood of developing cancer of the reproductive organs. Female dogs become better pets, do not attract male dogs, do not bleed when they are in season and have reduced likelihood of getting breast cancer and cancer of their reproductive organs.

Microchipping:

It is now the law to microchip and register all animals. We can do this at any time.

Insurance:

We strongly recommend private health insurance for your pets. Please look at the brochures you have been given and consider it. Accidents do happen.

Bathing & Grooming:

Bathing is an important part of caring for your animal and provides you with an opportunity for closer examination. Many dogs require fortnightly baths in summer; however this may be done less often in winter.

It is important that you use dog shampoos that are formulated for your dog's skin. Products containing aloe vera and oatmeal are generally more soothing on the skin, and a conditioner is recommended, especially. Please ask if you are unsure.

Vet HQ is also very happy to be able to provide you with the following services:



Pet grooming (cats and dogs)



Dog Day Care



Dog Boarding can be organised on request



Physiotherapy sessions with a trained Animal Physiotherapist



Alternative medicine (including acupuncture) with a member of the Veterinary Holistic Association



Full range of merchandise and food.



After Hours Service to 11pm weekdays.

- Specialist referral will be to North Shore Veterinary Specialist Centre
- Cat boarding (suites not cages)

Vet HQ is open:

- Monday – Friday 7.30am – 7pm
- Saturday 9am – 1pm
- Sunday am – 1pm
- Emergency After Hours Service weeknights 7pm – 11pm
- House Call Service on Wednesday mornings and no extra charge.

Appointments are highly recommended.

Please check out a website at www.vethq.com.au for further information.

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