

Feline Vaccination Information Sheet



Vaccinating your cat is essential to protect them from various diseases that can be prevalent in Australia. Here is important information about feline vaccinations specific to Australia.

Core Vaccines:

In Australia, core vaccines are recommended for all cats, and they protect against common and potentially severe diseases:

- **F3 Vaccine (Feline Enteritis, Calicivirus, Herpesvirus):** This vaccine is commonly referred to as F3, as it protects against feline enteritis (panleukopenia), calicivirus, and herpesvirus. These diseases can lead to severe respiratory and gastrointestinal symptoms. – **Minimum requirement for Boarding/Day Care establishments.**
- **F4 Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) Vaccine:** FIV is a concern for outdoor and male cats in Australia. Vaccination can help protect against this virus, which is like HIV in humans and weakens the immune system.

Kitten Vaccination Schedule:

Kittens in Australia require a series of vaccinations to build immunity:

- The first F3 vaccination is typically administered at 6-8 weeks of age.
- Boosters are given at 12 weeks and 16 weeks of age.
- An FIV vaccination may also be considered based on lifestyle and risk factors.

Adult Cat Vaccination Schedule:

Adult cats should receive regular booster shots:

- F3 boosters are recommended annually or as advised by your veterinarian.
- FIV boosters are also administered annually.

Consultation with a Veterinarian:

Consult your veterinarian to create a vaccination schedule tailored to your cat's specific health and lifestyle factors. They can help you determine the most appropriate vaccination plan.

Vaccine Side Effects:

Most cats tolerate vaccinations well, but some may experience mild side effects like lethargy or temporary soreness at the injection site. Serious adverse reactions are rare but can include allergic reactions. Report any unusual symptoms to your veterinarian.

Record Keeping:

Maintain a detailed record of your cat's vaccinations, including dates, vaccine types, and batch numbers. This information is crucial for tracking booster schedules and complying with local regulations.

Legal Requirements:

In some Australian states and territories, there may be legal requirements for rabies vaccination for cats. Be aware of and adhere to local regulations regarding pet vaccinations.

By staying informed about feline vaccinations and working closely with your veterinarian, you can help ensure your cat leads a healthy and happy life, free from preventable diseases. Regular vaccinations are a crucial part of responsible pet ownership in Australia.

*It is a legal requirement that all pets entering a pet care facility be fully vaccinated. The minimum requirement for cats is an F3 Vaccine (Feline Enteritis, Calicivirus, Herpesvirus).