

# West Central Veterinary Services

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## Canine Vaccination Protocol

### Puppy Series

- **Distemper/Parvo** → Given at first puppy visit if pup is 6-7 weeks old. Many pups are older than this when we see them for the first time so some dogs don't receive this vaccine. If this vaccine is given the next shot will be DHPP and it will be given 2-3 weeks later.
- **DHPP** → This vaccine includes distemper and parvovirus, as well as hepatitis and parainfluenza. It can be started at 8 weeks of age. Puppies should receive 2-3 injections, 3-4 weeks apart. Even if a puppy is older than 16 weeks when we first see it, it needs a booster in 3-4 weeks if it has never had any vaccines.
- **Rabies** → Give at 16 weeks at the end of the puppy series and it is good for 1 year.
- **Leptospirosis** → This should be given to the majority of the puppies. Only those breeds that are high risk of vaccine reactions may not be given the lepto. Studies have shown that the little house dogs that live in town are at just as high of a risk of contracting lepto as the farm dogs are. This can be included with the DHPP vaccine at the appropriate time.
- **Lyme** → 2 shots 3-4 weeks apart- give with the last 2 puppy visits. Dogs with known tick exposure or those that live near or visit wooded areas should receive this vaccine.
- **Bordetella** → This is the kennel cough vaccine. Dogs that are kenneled or groomed should receive this vaccine.
  - Some of our clinics use an injectable vaccine. If this is the case, your puppy will receive the intranasal, followed by the injectable 3-4 weeks later.

### Adult Dogs

- **DHPP** → This vaccine is given to all dogs annually until 2 years of age (3<sup>rd</sup> annual visit). Then it can be given every 3 years. Some exceptions may be made for dogs that are higher risk; in those cases, the vaccine may continue to be given annually.
- **Lepto** → This vaccine must be given annually, no exceptions. There may be some dogs, like dachshunds, that the doctor may elect not to use this vaccine. If the dog is an adult on its first visit and vaccine history is unknown, the lepto needs to be boosted in 3-4 weeks, then it is just once a year after that.

- **Lyme** → This vaccine is given annually, no exceptions. It is given to dogs at risk for tick exposure. Please keep in mind that dogs that live in town, may be at risk, especially if they visit wooded areas. If the dog is an adult that has never received this vaccine, it must be boosted in 3-4 weeks.
- **Rabies** → The first time a dog receives the rabies shot, it is only good for 1 year regardless of its age. Then it can receive a 3-year vaccine the next time. There may be some dogs that the doctor chooses to never use a 3-year vaccine with.
- **Bordetella** → Give annually to at risk dogs (those that board or are groomed). If the dog has never received the vaccine and the clinic uses the injectable, treat it as stated above for the puppies.

*\*\*\*Please note that a doctor will assess your dog during your visit and adjustments to the preceding protocol may be made according to your pet's environment and health risks.*