

	<b>DISEASE DESCRIPTION</b>	<b>VACCINE PROTOCOL</b>
(FVR) FELINE RHINOTRACHEITIS	The feline Rhinotracheitis virus is one of the common causes of feline upper respiratory tract infections (URTI) and is easily spread. This feline herpes type 1 virus usually causes sneezing, high fever, ocular & nasal discharge, as well as lack of appetite (sense of smell strongly influences a cat's appetite). Fatalities from this virus are infrequent with supportive medical care, however, kittens are at the most risk due to dehydration and secondary infection. Cats that have contracted the virus may have chronic problems that include lifetime sneezing, nasal/ocular discharge, and permanent closure of the nasolacrimal (tear) duct.	Vaccinate as early as 8 weeks old with boosters every 3-4 weeks until 12 weeks. Then booster every 3 years.
C FELINE CALICI VIRUS	Calicivirus is another of the common causes of feline upper respiratory tract infections (URTI). Symptoms may include rhinitis & conjunctivitis (along with discharge from the nose and eyes), acute arthritis, fever, and pneumonia. Ulcers of the mouth, nose, and paws also occur. The virus typically affects young kittens and in cases with pneumonia, secondary bacterial infection can make matters worse, usually leading to death. The virus is spread by direct contact and may survive outside the body for 8-10 days. It can be resistant to many cleansers however bleach will disinfect. Cats that have encountered the virus can be contagious for years despite not showing any signs of the disease.	Vaccinate as early as 8 weeks old with boosters every 3-4 weeks until 12 weeks. Then booster every 3 years.
(p) PANLEUKOPENIA or FELINE DISTEMPER VIRUS	This disease is caused by a highly contagious virus which can persist in the environment years after contamination. Like its name suggests, infected cats usually develop a panleukopenia which means all types of white blood cells become low in number. Individuals may also become anemic (low red blood cells). Other symptoms include acute enteric infection, vomiting, fever, diarrhea, depression, and dehydration. Kittens 2-6 months old tend to become more severely affected than adults often succumbing to the disease. The virus is resistant to many disinfectants however a 1:32 dilution of bleach can be used to decontaminate environments.	Vaccinate as early as 8 weeks old with boosters every 3-4 weeks until 12 weeks. Then booster every 3 years.

	<p>With so many cat owners routinely vaccinating for distemper the appearance of this disease is less frequent.</p>	
<p>FELV = FELINE LEUKEMIA VIRUS</p>	<p>Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) was first discovered to be the cause of many cases of feline lymphoma and leukemia in cats in the 1970's. Widespread testing and vaccination for FeLV since the 1980s has decreased the prevalence of the disease. However, it still remains a significant threat to cats especially those which commonly come in direct contact with other cats. We have found that cats that have access to the outdoors are most at risk for FeLV. The virus is spread through bodily fluids, primarily saliva. Bite wounds and sharing of food/water bowls are the most common routes of transmission however other routes can occur such as mother cats infecting their kittens transplacentally or through virus shed in milk. In the optimal environmental conditions the virus usually cannot survive more than 48 hours outside of the cat. The virus is killed by many disinfectants. The FeLV vaccine can prevent the persistent infection form of the disease. Cats which develop the persistent infection continually shed the virus and eventually develop a fatal form of the disease due to immunodeficiency and other causes which could take days, months, or even years. The downside of the vaccine is that 1 in 10,000 cats vaccinated may develop an injection-site fibrosarcoma. This type of fibrosarcoma is an aggressive cancer that needs to be surgically removed. This "reaction" to the vaccine does not necessarily take place after the first vaccine given and it can occur after any subsequent vaccination. Researchers are working on ways to make the vaccine safer however in the mean-time we recommend vaccinating only cats that have significant risk in coming in contact with the disease which can be determined from year to year.</p>	<p>Vaccinate kittens at 9 weeks or older then booster following that in 3 to 4 weeks. Cats that are at risk should have boosters yearly thereafter.</p>
<p>RABIES</p>	<p>This is a viral disease that can affect all warm blooded animals. It is uniformly fatal once clinical signs develop. There is a treatment in people but it has to be initiated</p>	<p>First Vaccine given at 12 weeks of age or older. Second vaccine a year</p>

	<p>prior to clinical symptoms, consequently you will see this listed as a prophylaxis rather than treatment. Placer county has one of the highest incidences of Rabies cases in California. Most commonly it is seen in skunks, bats, foxes, and raccoons in this country. A common method of transmission is saliva via a bite wound but infected skunk spray can also pass the disease. Even indoor cats should be vaccinated for Rabies. Not only is it required by law but you never know when your cat might be bitten by another pet or wild animal. The vaccine may save your cat's life. Also, if your cat were to bite a person without being previously vaccinated for Rabies, Placer county requires quarantine at a designated facility away from your pet's home.</p>	<p>later then every three years.</p>
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