What do all these vaccines mean?

“Core vaccines” refer to the canine distemper/parvovirus and rabies vaccines. These are the shots that your pet will get either every year or every three years when they come in for their annual wellness exams.

Three year vaccines (distemper/parvovirus and rabies vaccines are available in three-year) are the same potency as annual vaccines, but are licensed for three years. This means that your pet is just as protected but exposed to fewer \_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_\_ AND has to endure fewer shots. Everybody wins!

**DA2PP (Distemper/Adenovirus/Hepatitis/Parvovirus/Parainfluenza)**

* Distemper is a highly contagious, often fatal disease in dogs and puppies that causes problems with the respiratory, central nervous, and digestive systems.
* Adenovirus (and canine hepatitis) causes serious respiratory disease in dogs and can infect the liver.
* Parvovirus is an extremely contagious and serious disease that destroys the digestive and immune systems in unvaccinated dogs, leading to crippling diarrhea and vomiting.
* Parainfluenza is a mild but contagious and exhausting respiratory disease in dogs.

**RABIES**

* Rabies is a fatal disease spread through animal bites. Most states (South Carolina included) require up to date rabies vaccinations, as rabies can be spread to humans.

**BORDATELLA (Kennel Cough)**

* Kennel cough is spread through bacteria and causes respiratory disease in dogs (canine infectious tracheobronchitis), usually presenting as a cough. It is highly contagious and transmitted through the air. Many boarders and groomers require their clients to be vaccinated against kennel cough. Your puppy’s first kennel cough “vaccine” will be intranasal and all subsequent vaccines will be injectable.

**LEPTOSPIROSIS**

* Leptospirosis is caused by bacteria that are spread through soil, water, and infected animal urine; it can even spread into open skin wounds. The infection spreads through the bloodstream causing fever, joint pain, lethargy, and, if not treated, kidney and liver failure.

**LYME**

* Spread through ticks, Lyme disease leads to complications with the neurological, nervous, cardiac, and renal systems in addition to causing depression, arthritis, and anorexia.

Vaccine Reactions

After your puppy receives vaccines, they may be sore or lethargic. You may even feel a small lump at the vaccination site. These are normal reactions to vaccines. If your puppy stops eating or drinking, has difficulty breathing, experiences any facial swelling, loses consciousness or the ability to move, call us immediately. Your pet may be sensitive to vaccines and require medication prior to receiving them.

If you are experiencing a medical emergency at any time and we are not open, please call the 24 hour emergency clinic at (843) 216-7554.