

PRINCE FREDERICK ANIMAL HOSPITAL  
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### **KITTEN VACCINE SCHEDULE**

The first 4 months are often the most critical in the life of a cat. Many devastating diseases start early, so preventative medicine is essential. It is strongly recommended to initiate a vaccine program by nine weeks of age. Vaccines should be boosted yearly. Rabies vaccinations are given every three years after the initial one-year vaccine. Law mandates current rabies vaccinations whether the animal is exposed to outdoors or not. Females planned for breeding should be current on vaccines before breeding. Vaccines should not be administered to pregnant or debilitated animals.

8 weeks	Distemper Rhinotracheitis-Calici-Panleukopenia I Test for Felv/fiv (feline leukemia and feline aids) Fecal sample I
12 weeks	Distemper Rhinotracheitis-Calici-Panleukopenia II Feline leukemia I Fecal II 1-Year Rabies
16 weeks	Distemper Rhinotracheitis-Calici-Panleukopenia III Feline leukemia II

### **Heartworm Protection**

Heartworms are parasites that are occasionally seen in cats, and are spread through mosquitoes. Infection is frequently fatal in cats. Monthly prevention is available through your veterinarian.

### **Intestinal Parasites**

Cats should have feces analyzed for intestinal parasites (roundworms, hookworms, tapeworms and coccidia) starting at 3 weeks of age. Worms can be acquired before birth, while nursing, from the environment, or after eating garbage or uncooked meat. Cats with worms may have a wide variety of clinical signs including itchy skin, poor hair coat, stunted growth, pot-bellied appearance, vomiting, and bloody or discolored diarrhea. A fecal sample should be checked during routine yearly visits. Deworming treatment depends on the parasites identified. In order to prevent re-infestation of the environment, feces should be disposed of.

### **Fleas and Ticks**

Fleas can cause anemia and death in very young animals. Itching, especially of the hind end and pepper-like specks of dirt in the hair can indicate flea infestation. Flea and tick preventatives available from your veterinarian are safe and easily effective in killing both fleas and ticks for dogs and cats 10 weeks of age and older. They are applied to the skin once a month. Swimming, bathing and humidity does not effect the efficiency of these preventatives as long as cats are dry 2 days prior and 2 days after application.