

# VACCINATION IS A CRUCIAL STEP TOWARDS PROTECTION

## Congratulations!

By following your veterinarian's recommendations for vaccination, you have taken an important step in helping to protect the health of your puppy against devastating diseases.

Vaccines are designed to trigger a specific immune response that will help protect your pet from illness in the event of future exposure to the infection, such as canine distemper and parvo, among others.

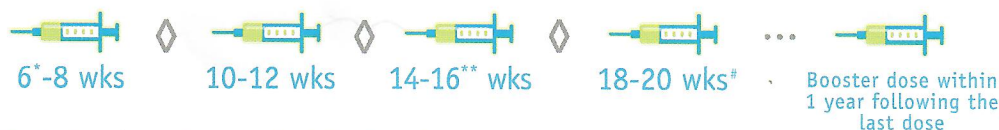
## Some vaccines require multiple doses

Your puppy will need 2 or 3 more doses to complete the initial vaccination series.<sup>1</sup>

With all vaccines that require more than 1 dose, it is important to:

- Remember, your puppy might not be fully protected until it receives the full initial series of doses
- Be aware that immunity might take a few days to develop following the last dose and might not happen the minute the last dose is given
- Understand that while your veterinarian is always the best guide for making vaccination decisions, American Animal Hospital Association vaccination guidelines recommend that puppies should be vaccinated every 2-4 weeks between the ages of 6 and 16 weeks old.<sup>1</sup> In particularly high risk areas, a final dose in the initial series is recommended between 18 to 20 weeks.<sup>1</sup>

## BE SURE! GET THEM ALL!<sup>1</sup>



\*Administer as early as 6 wks of age<sup>1</sup>   # High risk environments<sup>1</sup>

\*\*Administer sequential doses until at least 16 wks of age<sup>1</sup>   ♦ 2-4 weeks duration between each dose<sup>1</sup>

- Consult with your veterinarian as to when your puppy can socialize with other dogs and be in environments where other dogs have been

## Possible side effects<sup>2</sup>

As with all vaccines, your puppy may experience mild side effects. These may begin within hours after the dose and usually only last up to 1-2 days following each dose.

(continued on back)





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## Possible side effects<sup>2</sup> (continued)

**Injection site reactions** Swelling and discomfort at the vaccination site. Sometimes a small firm lump may develop at the injection site. It should start to disappear within a couple of weeks. *If the lump persists for more than three weeks, or seems to be getting larger, you should contact your veterinarian.*

### Nonspecific reactions

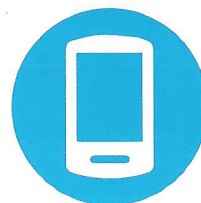
- Mild fever
- Decreased appetite
- Sluggish or decreased activity
- Sneezing, mild coughing, "Snotty Nose" or other respiratory signs may occur up to 2-5 days after your pet receives an intranasal vaccine.

*If side effects progressively worsen, last beyond 1 or 2 days, or your pet is in significant discomfort, contact your veterinarian right away.*

**Allergic reactions** Serious side effects are less common but can be life-threatening. These may occur within minutes to hours after vaccination.

### Call your veterinarian immediately if any of the following signs develop

- Persistent vomiting or diarrhea
- Itchy skin that may seem bumpy (hives)
- Swelling of the muzzle and around the face, neck, or eyes
- Severe coughing or difficulty breathing
- Collapse



Always inform your veterinarian if your pet has had prior reactions to any vaccine or medication. If in doubt, wait for 30-60 minutes following vaccination before taking your pet home.

Remember, vaccinating with the **full series** is one of the best ways to ensure your pet is protected.

## And play it safe until all doses for the puppy series are received

Before immunity develops, be especially cautious of socializing puppies or coming in contact with poop and other bodily fluids left behind by potentially infected dogs. Ask your veterinarian for more information.

<sup>1</sup> Ford RB, Larson LJ, McClure KD, Shultz RD, Welborn LV. AAHA Canine Vaccination Guidelines. AAHA website. [https://www.aaaha.org/globalassets/02-guidelines/canine-vaccination/vaccination\\_recommendation\\_for\\_general\\_practice\\_table.pdf](https://www.aaaha.org/globalassets/02-guidelines/canine-vaccination/vaccination_recommendation_for_general_practice_table.pdf). Updated 2018. Accessed April 23, 2020.

<sup>2</sup> American Veterinary Medical Association. Vaccinations: What to expect after your pet's vaccination. <https://www.avma.org/public/PetCare/Pages/What-to-expect-after-your-pets-vaccination.aspx>. Accessed April 23, 2020.