

VACCINES



Vaccines help prevent potentially deadly infectious diseases like rabies, feline distemper (panleukopenia), and upper respiratory tract infections. Beyond keeping your cat healthy, preventing disease through vaccination helps avoid the often expensive treatment of these contagious diseases.



Who needs vaccines?

All cats should receive vaccines as part of their regular veterinary care.



What about Community Cats or Ferals?

Vaccinations are very important for feral or free-roaming cats that come to FCSNP for surgery as this is likely their only opportunity to receive protection. New studies show even a single dose of a vaccine can provide significant long-term immunity. So, a single vaccine given at surgery can prevent severe disease and suffering in feral and free-roaming community cats.

Studies have shown that even one dose of most vaccines can provide significant protection. We always recommend giving a full course of vaccines but, giving even a single vaccine is worthwhile, even if boosters are delayed or not possible.

When should I vaccinate?

In a perfect world, each kitten would get his/her first set of vaccines at 8 weeks old and then receive a booster every 3-4 weeks until 16 weeks of age. Then, depending on the vaccine, the cat would receive a booster every 1-3 years. Cats that receive their first vaccinations after 16 weeks old should still have a booster in 3-4 weeks. Work with your vet to create a specific schedule for your cat!

What vaccines does FCSNP offer?

FCSNP offers two vaccines given at the time of surgery only.

Rabies: Your cat must be at least 3 months old (but 4 months is ideal) to receive a Rabies vaccine. Our vaccine is labeled as a 3 year vaccine, meaning it should provide protection for at least 3 years. **If this is your cat's first rabies vaccine, it will need to receive a booster in 1 year (see your vet).**
FVRCP (Feline Distemper): This is a 3-in-1 vaccine that includes feline rhinotracheitis, calicivirus, and panleukopenia virus. This vaccine is commonly given to kittens as young as 8 weeks. **If this is your cat's first FVRCP vaccine, it is recommended that your cat receive a booster in 3-4 weeks.** Depending on the age of your cat and previous vaccines, your cat may need additional doses. Please consult your regular veterinarian for more information about vaccines and to schedule

any needed booster appointments.