



## NORTH AVENUE ANIMAL HOSPITAL, P.C.

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1901 W. North Ave.  
Chicago, IL 60622  
(773) 278-1330

### RECOMMENDED SCHEDULE OF PREVENTATIVE HEALTH CARE FOR...**YOUR NEW KITTEN**

We would like to acquaint you with some basic information about your kitten's health, and to provide a schedule of steps we can take to guard against some potentially dangerous diseases. It is far more practical and economical to keep your pet healthy and disease free, than to initiate treatment once your pet is sick and in need of medical care.

**YOUR PET'S HEALTH IS UP TO YOU!**

- Kittens can be vaccinated starting at 8 weeks of age.
- Kittens should receive 2 distemper vaccinations given 3-4 weeks apart.
- Kittens receive their Rabies vaccination at 16 weeks.

#### **First Visit:**

- Distemper (FVRCP) Vaccine- Protects against Feline Distemper (Panleukopenia), Rhino-Tracheitis and Calicivirus.
- Feline Leukemia Virus/FIV Test- Recommended for all kittens. Kittens can receive the Leukemia Virus Vaccine at 8-10 weeks of age.
- Stool Exam- We will check for intestinal parasites such as roundworms, hookworms, tapeworms, and coccidia.
- Deworming Medicine- Medication used to rid your kitten of intestinal parasites.
- The doctor will discuss Flea and Tick prevention for cats.

#### **Second Visit:**

- Distemper (FVRCP) Vaccine- Protects against Feline Distemper (Panleukopenia), Rhino-Tracheitis and Calicivirus.
- Feline Leukemia Virus Vaccine- Recommended for outdoor cats or cats that may become exposed. The first vaccine can be given between 8-10 weeks. The second one can be given 3-4 weeks later.
- Deworming Medicine- Medication used to rid your kitten of intestinal parasites.

#### **Third Kitten Visit:**

- Feline Leukemia Virus Vaccine- Recommended for outdoor cats or cats that may become exposed. Second vaccine may be due today.
- Rabies Vaccine- Required by law. We offer a 1 year vaccine.

#### **ANNUAL FELINE VISIT:**

- We recommend a complete physical exam at least annually, with possible booster vaccinations as recommended by your veterinarian. A yearly stool exam is also recommended.

### **PANLEUKOPENIA/RHINO-TRACHEITIS/CALICIVIRUS**

These three are highly contagious viral diseases that have a high mortality rate. Symptoms of these diseases include severe diarrhea, depression, vomiting, dehydration, loss of appetite, fever, nasal and ocular discharge, sneezing, and excessive salivation.

### **FELINE LEUKEMIA VIRUS**

Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) is a highly infectious disease that attacks and weakens the cats immune system. It is usually transmitted through saliva, urine, blood, or by infected female cats that pass the virus to their unborn/newborn kittens. We recommend testing cats for Feline Leukemia to make sure they are not infected before vaccinating them. Multiple cat households and/or outdoor cats are at a higher risk for developing this disease.

### **FELINE IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS**

Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV) is a contagious and fatal viral disease usually acquired through bite wounds. Symptoms are similar to Feline Leukemia Virus. We recommend that all kittens and new cats be tested for FIV before the vaccination is given.

### **INTESTINAL PARASITES**

Most kittens are either born with worms or become infected with them during the first few weeks of life. There are several common kinds of intestinal parasites and all of them can jeopardize your pet's health. Some intestinal parasites can even cause problems in humans. Each type of worm produces a different kind of egg that can only be seen under a microscope. It is important that we check your cat's stool annually. If your cat has worms, treatment will begin promptly.

### **DENTAL CARE**

By the age of 4, up to 85% of pets have some form of periodontal disease. With a new kitten, you have a great opportunity to begin effective home oral care right from the start. Our entire staff is well informed about pet dental care and will be glad to discuss this with you.

### **SPAY/NEUTER**

We recommend spaying (female) or neutering (male) your cat at about 6 months of age. This elective procedure increases your pet's chance for a longer, healthier life. Female cats spayed before their first heat, have a lower rate of mammary cancer as they age, compared to cats that have not been spayed. Spaying also eliminates the threat of uterine and ovarian cancer and uterine infections which are common occurrences in unaltered females. Neutering your male cat prevents testicular tumors, spraying and may prevent prostate disease later in life.

### **EMERGENCY CARE**

Our hospital is a member of the Chicago Veterinary Emergency Services (CVES), located at 3123 N. Clybourn in Chicago. The phone number is (773)281-7110. If your pet requires emergency care after hours, Sundays or holidays, please contact the CVES. The emergency clinic is a fully equipped and staffed emergency care facility offering medical, surgical and diagnostic services. Our veterinarians will be informed about your pet's condition the next morning and will provide follow-up care.

*Our clinic is committed to the health and well being of your pet, an important member of your family. Our staff is caring, knowledgeable and well trained. Please let us know whenever you have any questions or concerns about your pet. We promise to do our best to help you. Thanks for trusting us with the care of your new kitten!*