

WHAT TO LOOK FOR AFTER YOUR PET'S VACCINATION

The vaccine your pet received today was designed to stimulate a specific immune response to help protect against illness in the event of future exposure to the disease. Vaccines provide proven life-saving benefits and are associated with minimal risks, and most cats and dogs respond favorably following a vaccine administration.

By prioritizing preventive health care, you are taking an essential step in keeping your friend happy and healthy for years to come.

Vaccines introduce a small, harmless version of a specific disease-causing virus or bacteria into the body. When the vaccine is administered, the immune system recognizes the foreign invader and mounts an immune response to it, producing antibodies, which help protect the body against infection in the future. It is critical to follow the recommended vaccination schedule for your pet, as it helps ensure that their immune system can provide protection against the diseases they are at risk of contracting.

It is important to note that while vaccines are generally very effective at providing immunity to disease, they are not 100% effective in all cases. Some pets may still be at risk of contracting the disease, even if vaccinated. Although most dogs and cats respond favorably with minimal to no adverse consequences, vaccinating any patient carries some risk.

Short-Term Nonspecific Reactions

Your pet may display short-lived side effects for up to 1-2 days following the administration of any vaccine:

- Reduced appetite or loss of appetite (lasting for one or two feedings)
- Pain at the injection site
- Lethargy (lack of activity)
- Reluctance to walk/run
- Mild fever

Contact your veterinarian if any of these signs progressively worsen or continue beyond 1-2 days.

Allergic Reactions

Contact your veterinarian immediately if your pet develops any of these less common but more serious signs:

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Collapse
- Difficulty breathing
- Facial swelling
- Itchy or bumpy skin like hives
- Injection site reactions may include:
 - Small, firm lump at the injection site (expected to resolve within 1 month)
- Contact your veterinarian if:
 - The swelling is still painful after 1-2 days
 - The swelling continues to grow
 - The swelling persists beyond 1 month

After your pet receives a vaccination, it is normal for them to experience mild side effects as their body develops immunity to the disease. These side effects may include:

- Soreness, redness, or swelling at the injection site
- Mild fever
- Loss of appetite
- Lethargy
- Mild respiratory symptoms

These side effects are usually mild and resolve on their own within a few days. If your pet experiences any of these symptoms, you can help them feel more comfortable by offering them a comfortable place to rest and providing them with plenty of water. Contact your veterinarian for further advice if you are concerned about your pet's condition.