

Puppy Health



Bringing home your new puppy can be a very exciting time but if you haven't had a puppy before, it can also be a bit scary. There is so many important things to consider when welcoming a new puppy to your family to ensure they get the best start to life. Puppy health is so important and we want to provide with you all the key information to help you and your family adjust to living with your new member of the family.



Vaccinations

Your new puppy will require 3 vaccinations within its first few weeks. Below is outline of when your puppy will need these vaccinations and some further information about the vaccination itself.

-  6-8 weeks C3 Vaccination
-  10-12 weeks C3 Booster
-  14-16 weeks C3 or C5 Vaccination
-  Then yearly

C3 Vaccination offers protection against Distemper, Hepatitis and Parvovirus. C5 Vaccination offers C3 protection plus protection against Canine Respiratory Complex (Kennel Cough). Vaccinations do not give immediate protection. We recommend keeping your pup away from other dogs (or areas where dogs may have been e.g. parks) until 2 weeks AFTER the 14-16 week booster. Regular boosters are vital to maintain protection against these diseases.



Microchipping

This involves injecting a small microchip under the skin over the shoulder area. This can help reunite you and your pet in the event of separation. It is now a legal requirement that this is performed in all puppies after 8 weeks of age. If done here we will sms you when we have checked that your details are on the database.

Book Online

Want to make an appointment for your puppy? You can now directly book your next consultation with us online anytime of the day or night. Head to our website at highstreetvets.com.au and click 'BOOK ONLINE'.



What you should know!



Intestinal Worming

Pups can be born with intestinal worms and if left untreated this can be life threatening. You should:

- 🐾 worm every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age
- 🐾 then worm every month until 6 months of age
- 🐾 then worm every 3 months

Intestinal worms can be transmitted from dogs to humans, especially children; therefore it is important for your own health that your dog is regularly wormed.

NOTE: Not all worm preparations are effective against all types of worms. DRONTAL® is available as a tablet or a tasty chew.



Fleas

Fleas can cause skin disease, anaemia and tapeworm infestation. Washes, powders and collars do not work well; therefore we recommend one of the monthly treatments available. Remember that 95% of fleas are in the environment and not on your animal; therefore it may occasionally be required to have your home professionally cleaned to remove this burden. Vacuuming carpeted areas and regularly washing pets bedding will also assist in this.

Seresto is a new collar that prevents fleas for *8 months.



Cane Toads

Some pups like to play with toads. The poison in the toad's skin can cause fitting and death. The first sign is the dog salivating profusely at the mouth. If this is occurring, you need to wash the mouth out using a soaking wet sponge/cloth and rub the gums vigorously for at least 5 minutes. (The toxin sticks to the gums and is absorbed in this way) If you use a hose flush gently with the hose in the side of the mouth so your pet does not breathe in the water and drown. After you have cleaned their mouth, immediately contact the veterinarian on duty if there is any twitching, fitting or if the foaming continues.



Insurance

Is recommended. As you love your pet dearly and as one of the family, we recommend that you get insurance to cover the accidents and conditions that may happen in the future. This enables you financially to take care of your pet the way you would like to. Please remember there is often a 30 day waiting period.



Heartworm

Dogs in Central Queensland are very likely to contract heartworm (a worm spread by mosquitos) if not regularly taking prevention. Heartworm will shorten your dog's lifespan, but is preventable. Heartworm protection begins at 12 weeks of age and continues for life. Options are:

- 🐾 monthly chew (e.g. Interceptor®)
- 🐾 annual injection - this must be given at 12 weeks, 6 months and then with the vaccinations (yearly) as a puppy to account for their weight changes while growing.



Ticks

Paralysis ticks can kill puppies and adult dogs. Brown dog ticks can cause problems also. Either tick collars like Seresto which lasts 4 months or "Spot-on" preparations like Advantix® can be used in the control of ticks on your dog.



Feeding

It is recommended that puppies are fed a pre-prepared puppy diet, to ensure your dog receives optimum nutrition for growth and development. Large breed dogs should be fed a large breed puppy food to help prevent developmental growth problems. Dry food and treats such as pigs ears and dental chews are a great way to help reduce the risk of dental disease. NEVER FEED COOKED BONES as these are not able to be digested and can cause obstructions. Hills science diet is our preferred food.



Desexing

Desexing is recommended at 6 months of age, and for females preferably before her first heat. A female will come into season anytime from 6-10 months of age depending on breed size.

Desexing of female and male dogs is advisable because it:

- 🐾 reduces the number of unwanted pups each year
- 🐾 reduces the urge for dogs to roam and fight
- 🐾 reduces the risk of mammary cancer in females
- 🐾 reduces the risk of prostate enlargement in males

Desexing animals does not significantly alter their personality traits.

