

## Vaccination Programme For Dogs

Vaccinations refer to timely injections given to healthy puppies and dogs to prevent them from getting certain infectious disease.

Dogs require a minimum of three vaccinations during the first year of life at three week intervals. The timing of the first vaccine depends on the disease risk level. Puppies are given the first dose at six weeks of age as a rule of thumb. This is on the assumption that the mother was fully vaccinated when it was a puppy and thereafter given yearly boosters of DHCP/Rabies to be able to pass on maternal antibodies to protect the puppies from zero to six weeks of age.

Puppies born from mothers which missed some vaccines are likely to be Immuno-compromised and therefore should be vaccinated earlier than six weeks of age.

Its recommended to start vaccinating such puppies at four weeks of age as follows :-

Dogs Age	4 weeks	6 weeks	8 weeks	12 weeks
Vaccine Type	DP	DHCP	DHCP	DHCP and Rabies

N.B.

DP : Distemper and parvo

DHCP : Distemper/hemipatitis/leptospirosis/parvo

DHCP/R : Distemper/hemipatitis/leptospirosis/parvo/ rabies

After the initial vaccination which should also include treatment for worms (deworming) dogs get yearly vaccinations for DHCP/R plus deworming

. Remember to include monthly dipping to control external parasites (ticks, fleas; lice) which can bring in tick born disease which can be transmitted to people.

In conclusion the extra cost of vaccinating a puppy four times instead of three (say 2 - 1300) is far outweighed by the benefits when dealing with a puppy worth P600.00. For a mongrel you were given free it can be debatable.

The next issue will have a vaccination programme for Sheep, Goats and Cows. Lets help prevent corona.

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