



## Edgewood Veterinary Clinic, Inc.

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# Congratulations on the new addition to your family!

Here is some important information for you regarding your puppy's health and vaccine schedule:

DHLPP (Distemper, Adenovirus, Parainfluenza, Parvovirus, Leptospirosis) is a series of 3 vaccines given at 3-4 week intervals. We recommend that your puppy be vaccinated at 8, 12, and 16 weeks of age (Lepto is a series of 2 vaccines and should not occur before 12 weeks of age). Follow up boosters for the DHPP are given in 1 year, then every 3 years. The Leptospirosis is boosted annually.

Kennel Cough is a highly contagious disease especially in boarding, grooming, shelter facilities, and other areas where dogs congregate (Dog Park). We provide a vaccine that goes directly in the nose to provide the best immunologic response. This vaccine is given every 6 months - 1 year depending on lifestyle of your pet.

Rabies vaccine is given at 16 weeks of age. After the first vaccine, the rabies vaccine is boosted in 1 year, then every 3 years. The first vaccine may take up to 28 days to take effect, so we recommend that you keep your puppy isolated from wildlife and other animals until after this time.

Heartworm is very prevalent in Placer and Nevada County. We recommend heartworm prevention be given every month year round. We can prescribe one chewable tablet each month as your puppy is in its rapid growth phase, and when your dog reaches its adult weight, we will prescribe a 6 or 12 month supply. A simple blood test to check for heartworms is performed every year, usually done during your pets' annual physical exam.

A fecal examination will determine if your puppy has any intestinal parasites. Some intestinal parasites have been known to be transmitted to people leading to serious health concerns. We can help by identifying which type of parasite your pet may have and prescribing the appropriate de-wormer. Remember to wear gloves and immediately dispose of feces.

We highly recommend getting your dog neutered, usually around 6 months of age. This will allow your pet to grow with the influence of his or her hormones, but hopefully not develop those bad behavioral problems that can occur the longer a pet remains intact. Due to the huge numbers of animals euthanized at shelters, we recommend neutering to aid in avoiding unwanted pregnancies. Also there are some diseases that occur only in the intact female and male dog which can be avoided by neutering.

The California Practice Act requires that we have a **Veterinary-Client-Patient** relationship that does not exceed 1 year. Therefore we recommend an annual well-pet exam to optimize your puppy's health. To renew any necessary prescriptions, your dog must have a current examination that does not exceed 1 year regardless of the medication prescribed.

We do have puppy packages that may save you money in the long run. Please ask one of our staff members to see if your puppy will benefit. All above services have a fee associated, therefore if you have any questions or concerns please ask our staff.

Have fun with your new companion!