

**CANINE VACCINATION SCHEDULE**  
**MINIMAL VACCINE PROTOCOL**  
**(March 22, 2010)**

We choose to follow a minimal vaccine protocol. The following vaccination schedule is based on recommendations by Dr. Ronald Schultz and Dr. Jean Dodds. Although we follow this protocol, and do recommend it to our puppy buyers, we realize it is a personal decision. You and your veterinarian should discuss the pro's and con's and then make an educated decision. We are always available to discuss and/or provide you with any documentation or information on any of the vaccines.

*This protocol is based on recommendations from Dr. Jean Dodds & Dr. Ronald Schultz*

<b>Age of Pups</b>	<b>Vaccine Type Core Diseases</b>
1 <sup>st</sup> Vaccine 8-9 Weeks	<b>Distemper/Adeno(hepatitis) Parvo</b>
2 <sup>nd</sup> Vaccine 12 weeks	<b>Same as above</b>
3 <sup>rd</sup> /Final vaccine 16 Weeks	<b>Distemper/Adeno(hepatitis) Parvo</b>
20-24 Weeks	<b>Rabies - do not give earlier than 4 weeks after last puppy shot (DAP)</b>
1 Year Old	<b>Run Titers</b> for immunity status (more on titering on next page) or <b>Distemper/Adeno (hepatitis) booster Parvo booster</b>
1 Year Old	<b>Rabies booster - killed 3-year product (Give no earlier than 4 weeks after Distemper)</b>  <b>**Following 1 year Rabies Booster, your dog should only be re-vaccinated for Rabies once every 3 years **</b>
2 years old or older	It is recommended that all IWS have the following health screenings run and results published in the OFA's database:  - Hips, Elbows, Thyroid, CERF (eye exam)

Following is some specific information on each of the vaccines. If vaccinating a puppy with non-core vaccines, in general, with the exception of intranasal bordetella, which can be given with the core vaccines, the viral vaccinations should be given first, and the bacterials should not be mixed (Immunology expert Ronald Schultz, PhD, Diplomate American College of Veterinary Internal Medicine)

### **Rabies**

**DO NOT** give the Rabies vaccine at the same time any other vaccines are given. The Rabies vaccine has been found to be the most "reactive" of all the vaccines. Test studies indicate that vaccinating for Rabies at the same time other vaccines are administered can have serious and permanent negative effects on the immune system.

### **Parvo**

Parvovirus is generally only dangerous for puppies and is normally not life threatening for a healthy adult dog. It is transmitted by direct or indirect contact with infected feces. We recommend no further vaccination for Parvovirus after the 1 year booster.

### **Leptospirosis Vaccine**

Lepto has also been found to be one of the more reactive causing vaccines. Studies indicate that as there are many different strains of Leptospirosis, there is no guarantee that the Lepto vaccine your dog receives will be the same strain of Lepto your dog is exposed to. We only recommend giving this vaccine if Lepto is a risk factor in your area. Lepto is transmitted through the urine and feces of infected animals, rodents, and in puddles or standing water sources that have been contaminated. If you feel your dog is exposed regularly to any of the above, we recommend discussing the risk factor with your veterinarian before making your decision whether or not to vaccinate for Lepto.

### **Lymes Vaccine**

Lymes disease is transmitted through a tick bite. If infected, it is treatable through a 3 week course of antibiotics and normally doesn't pose a life threatening risk if caught early. However there have been incidences where the Lymes bacteria infects the kidneys causing renal failure which is fatal. If you are diligent about using one of the many topical tick repellents or the "Preventik" collar (active ingredient is Armitraz which is 99% effective in killing ticks), then this normally is a reliable protocol and should protect your dog from contracting Lymes Disease. However, if you live in an area where the incidence of Lymes Disease is extremely high, and your lifestyle is such that your dog's chances of infection are high, you may want to discuss this alternative with your veterinarian.

### **Bordatella Vaccine (Kennel Cough)**

Bordatella is not one of the "core" vaccines. It is not life threatening and is self limiting. Most healthy adult dogs will recover from Bordatella on their own. If your training classes are going to be held outdoors and it is not mandatory that your puppy be vaccinated for Bordatella, we do not recommend giving this vaccine at this time. Your puppy's immune system is not yet fully matured and you don't want to overload them with so many different

vaccines at such a young age, and in particular the non-core vaccines. If your puppy must be vaccinated for Bordetella due to training classes, we suggest you wait until around October. This is when the dog shows and training classes move to indoor venues for the colder weather and the chances of exposure are slightly increased.

(cont'd on back)

### **Antibody Titers-**

If you do decide on a minimal vaccine protocol as we have outlined above, we further recommend having your veterinarian annually run vaccine antibody titers. These titer levels indicate the level of protection your dog has at the time of the testing, against the various diseases. By law you are required to vaccinate for the Rabies virus, however most states now require only vaccinating for Rabies once every three years. Some dogs, due to age, health issues or health risks, may be eligible for a "waiver" from the Rabies vaccine. You should discuss this with your veterinarian. A Rabies antibody titer can also be performed to accompany the waiver request.