

# Vaccinations for dogs



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Vaccinations are vital to ensure good health for all dogs. The vaccination routinely given at our clinic is a 5-in-1 vaccine called Protech C4 + BB or C5. This vaccination protects against the following diseases:

- **Parvovirus** – This virus causes severe vomiting and diarrhoea in unvaccinated animals, often resulting in death. The virus is very resistant to sterilisation and may last in the environment for up to a year.
- **Distemper** – This disease initially starts with a fever, mild cough and nasal discharge. However, as the disease progresses, more severe mental signs develop, such as fits, paralysis and blindness. Many dogs will die once these more severe symptoms develop.
- **Infectious canine hepatitis** – This disease, caused by a virus, is similar to severe hepatitis in people, causing damage to the liver and sometimes more widespread organ failure and sepsis. The virus is hardy and highly contagious.
- **Canine cough** – Canine cough is also known as kennel cough. Like the human cold, it is actually caused by a number of different microbes. Our vaccinations protect against the three most common causes of canine cough: adenovirus, parainfluenza virus and the Bordetella bacteria. All forms of canine cough are extremely contagious and are spread through the air from coughing dogs. The disease causes severe airway inflammation and a very harsh, hacking cough. This may progress to more severe chest infections in some cases.

Our vaccination protocol is to give an **initial course of three vaccinations**, followed by **yearly booster** injections throughout your dog's life. We are always happy to discuss our vaccination courses for puppies and dogs. Please ask at our clinic for more information.

Puppies should not be allowed to walk out in public until at least seven days after their second injection. After this, puppies can be taken for walks but it is advisable to stick to footpaths and away from dog parks until after the final injection. Fully vaccinated dogs can be introduced to puppies of any age and this is often beneficial to improve socialisation skills.

Yearly booster injections are required to maintain immunity. The annual vaccination is also a valuable opportunity for a complete health check and to discuss any concerns you may have about your dog.