



## **Examinations**

### **12 Body Systems Exam: Twice Yearly**

We recommend an examination of all twelve of the body systems. We will provide a full color printed report of the findings of this examination. We recommend a physical examination twice a year on all normal pets. Because pets age seven years for every one of humans, having a physical examination every six months for a pet is like a human having an exam every three and one-half years. Pets are unable to communicate how they feel with words, so they are on a faster path toward illness than humans. Many pets mask their illness from us, so only an experienced veterinarian can perform a proper exam to determine the state of wellness.

## **Vaccinations**

### **Rabies: Every 3 Years after initial vaccination**

We recommend a Rabies Vaccination for your pet. Rabies is the most frequently requested vaccine for pets because most people have heard of this highly fatal viral infection of the nervous system which affects all warm-blooded animal species. Rabies is one of the few 100% fatal diseases that are transferable to humans from pets. We recommend a Rabies Vaccination for all pets at risk, e.g. outdoor pets and pets that will come in contact with other animals.

### **HCPCH: Once Yearly**

HCPCH Immunization is a combination of vaccines for Feline Rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus, Panleukopenia, Chlamydia Psittaci Vaccine. Feline viral rhinotracheitis (FVR) is an upper respiratory or pulmonary infection of cats caused by feline herpesvirus 1, of the family Herpesviridae. Feline calicivirus is a virus of the family Caliciviridae that causes disease in cats. It is one of the two important viral causes of respiratory infection in cats, the other being feline herpesvirus. Feline panleukopenia virus, also known as feline infectious enteritis, feline parvoviral enteritis, feline distemper, feline ataxia, or cat plague, is a viral infection affecting cats, both domesticated and wild feline species. Chlamydiosis refers to a bacteria based chronic respiratory infection, caused by the Chlamydia psittaci bacterium. Cats that have developed this infection will often exhibit traditional signs of an upper respiratory infection, such as watery eyes, runny nose, and sneezing. With treatment, the prognosis is positive. We recommend a HCPCh Vaccination for all pets at risk, e.g. outdoor pets and pets that will come in contact with other animals.

### **FeLV: Every 2 Years**

We recommend a Feline Leukemia Booster vaccination every 2 years, particularly for all pets at risk, e.g. outdoor pets and pets that will come in contact with other animals.

Feline leukemia virus is a retrovirus that infects cats. FeLV can be transmitted from infected cats when the transfer of saliva or nasal secretions is involved. All kittens should be tested and vaccinated against FeLV.

## ***Heartworm Prevention***

### **Advantage Multi: Topical - Monthly**

Advantage Multi for Cats provides broad-spectrum parasite protection in a convenient monthly application. It kills fleas, treats and controls ear mites, roundworms and hookworms and prevents heartworm disease, all in one easy-to-use topical application. Advantage Multi is for cats over 9 weeks of age and at least 2 lbs body weight.

## ***Flea Prevention***

### **Bravecto: Topical - Every 12 weeks**

Whether your cat goes outdoors or stays inside, continuous flea and tick protection is important. With Bravecto, you can give your cat 12 weeks of protection against fleas and ticks with a single treatment. This makes it easy for you to provide long-lasting coverage to your cat, without having to worry about giving frequent treatments. With just one dose, your cat is all taken care of, so you can enjoy life with your cat, without any worries. Bravecto can be use on kittens and cats over six months of age and at least 2.6 pounds.

## ***Intestinal Parasites***

### **Deworming: Every 6 Months**

We recommend strategic deworming for your pet. Strategic worming makes the assumption that your pet has, or has been exposed to, parasites and that these parasites are a threat to your pet, your family, and the environment. Strategic worming is recommended by the Centers for Disease Control to prevent transmission of parasites from pets to people. We will need to repeat this treatment in 2 weeks to be effective. For more information on strategic deworming please visit the Centers for Disease Control Website. We recommend deworming every 6 months unless your pet is on a monthly preventative.

## ***Blood Tests***

### **Blood Screen: Every Six Months**

We recommend a Wellness Blood Screen for your pet. This test will help us assess internal organ functions, which cannot be determined based on physical examination alone. Indications of internal organ functions, such as the liver and kidney functions as well as the presence of infection or anemia can be determined.

### **Heartworm Test: Once Yearly**

This test will determine if adult, female heartworms are present in your pet's heart, which will help us determine if your pet has heartworms prior to the administration of heartworm preventative.

### **FeLV/FIV Testing: Every Six Months**

Feline leukemia virus (FeLV) is one of the most common infectious diseases in cats, affecting between 2 and 3% of all cats in the United States. Infection rates are significantly higher (up to 30%) in cats that are ill or otherwise at high risk. Cats at greatest risk of FeLV infection are those that may be exposed to infected cats, either via prolonged close contact or through bite wounds. Such cats include cats living with infected cats or with cats of unknown infection status, cats allowed outdoors unsupervised where they may be bitten by an infected cat, and kittens born to infected mothers. In infected cats, feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) attacks the immune system, leaving the cat vulnerable to many other infections. Although cats infected with FIV may appear normal for years, they eventually suffer from this immune deficiency, which allows normally harmless bacteria, viruses, protozoa, and fungi found in the everyday environment to potentially cause severe illnesses. The median survival time for a cat diagnosed with FIV is approximately five years. The primary mode of transmission for FIV is through bite wounds. Casual, non-aggressive contact does not appear to be an efficient route of spreading the virus. As a result, cats in households with stable social structures where housemates do not fight are at little risk of acquiring FIV infections. On rare occasions infection is transmitted from an infected mother cat to her kittens, usually during passage through the birth canal or when the newborn kittens ingest infected milk. Sexual contact is not a major means of spreading FIV.

### ***Stool and Urine Tests***

#### **Urinalysis: Every Six Months**

The biochemical properties of the urine are tested by a urinalysis and can help to determine the cause of a urinary tract disorder. The presence of blood or white blood cells in the urine indicates inflammation, while a change in the acid content of the urine may indicate infection. Microscopic evidence of crystals may indicate that bladder or kidney stones are present and microscopic evidence of casts (from the kidney) can be an early warning of kidney disease. The concentration of the urine can reflect kidney function and the presence of dehydration. The presence of glucose is suggestive of diabetes. Other biochemical tests can be completed and if infection is suspected, a culture of the urine will be recommended.

#### **Intestinal Parasite Test: Every Six Months**

We recommend Wellness Intestinal Parasite Testing for your pet. Intestinal parasites can be identified by examination of your pet's stool for the presence of worms or worm eggs. We recommend these tests to identify parasites that may be either a threat to your pet or to your family.

## *Reproduction*

### **Pet Neutering:**

Neutering is the term used to denote removing the ability of a pet to reproduce. Neutering is the correct term for either males or females, but is more commonly used to denote the surgical removal of the sexual organs in a male pet. A spay is the surgical removal of the sexual organs in a female pet. We recommend neutering for all pets not explicitly used for breeding purposes. Neutered pets have fewer diseases, roam less, fight less, have cancer less and live longer.

## *Dental Care*

### **Dental Cleaning:**

A dental cleaning is an important part of general health care maintenance for your pet. The teeth are a potential source for life-threatening infections to the heart, liver and kidney, if periodontal disease develops. Pet's teeth are very similar to human's teeth and dental disease is very common in pets. Routine dental care is recommended because maintaining good oral health will greatly improve the health and breath of your pet. Teeth cleaning procedures completed at our hospital, followed by our recommended home care treatments, are the best way to ensure the long life of your pet's teeth.

## *Cardiovascular (Heart Function) Tests*

### **ECG: Once Yearly**

The ECG, or Electrocardiogram, monitors the electrical activity of the heart. It can help determine the reason for irregular heartbeats and abnormal heart sounds, and determine heart dysfunction in pets that have no external signs of heart disease.

### **Blood Pressure Test: Once Yearly**

Elevated blood pressure is a very serious complication of heart and kidney disease. Blood pressure measurement is easy with new, high technology Doppler equipment, and can be completed with no discomfort to your pet. Heart disease, kidney disease, anesthesia, position of your pet, fluid administration and fluid losses can all affect your pet's blood pressure. Blood pressure monitors can also be used to monitor your pet's blood pressure while your pet is under anesthesia.

## *Eye Disease Tests*

### **Glaucoma Test:**

A Glaucoma Screening will help us determine if the eye contains excessive pressure, which is generated by fluid production within the eye. As the fluid is produced, it is drained from the eye through the filtration angle. Anything that reduces the drainage of the fluid will cause an increase in the pressure within the eye, which can lead to

blindness, due to the negative effect on the retinal and optic nerve. Increased intraocular pressure is called glaucoma, which is a common hereditary disease in many pets and routine screening is recommended.

### **Schirmer Tear Test:**

A Schirmer tear test (STT) is a diagnostic test to measure the rate of tear production in an animal's eyes. Used in the evaluation of conjunctivitis to diagnose tear deficiency as a contributing factor to ocular surface diseases and to assess lacrimal gland function.

### ***Microchip***

A HomeAgain microchip is your pet's permanent ID. A pet microchip—the size of a grain of rice—goes beneath your pet's skin. This permanent ID can never be removed or become impossible to read. HomeAgain uses this ID to contact you and reunite you with your pet.

### ***Grooming***

Pets have become members of our family, and because we interact with them every day by touching and petting them, their hair coat needs to be clean and enjoyable. This increased level of interaction necessitates frequent hair and skin cleaning. Because pet's skin and hair coat have differences in pH, skin layers, hair type and hair numbers, special considerations must be given to grooming. The following care instructions represent traditional hair coat care for your pet's coat type. We recommend professional hair coat care by a pet groomer, supplemented by your home care on a routine basis. You may increase the frequency as needed to make your pet a huggable part of your family.

### ***Pet Behavior/Training***

#### **Behavior Concerns:**

Behavioral concerns are very common with pets and may be the most common reason for pet abandonment and pet euthanasia. This is sad because most pet behavioral problems can be diagnosed and treated when the proper care and knowledge are applied to your pet's issues.