



## Core and Optional Vaccines for Puppies and Kittens

George William\*

Department of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University, West Lafayette, United States of America

\*Corresponding Author: George William, Department of Veterinary Medicine, Purdue University, West Lafayette, United States of America; Email: george@yahoo.us

Received date: 28 October, 2024, Manuscript No. JVSMD-24-154654;

Editor assigned date: 30 October, 2024, PreQC No. JVSMD-24-154654 (PQ);

Reviewed date: 13 November, 2024, QC No. JVSMD-24-154654;

Revised date: 20 November, 2024, Manuscript No. JVSMD-24-154654 (R);

Published date: 27 November, 2024, DOI: 10.4172/2324-83414.1000109.

### Description

Vaccinating puppies and kittens is one of the most important steps in ensuring they grow up healthy and protected from a range of serious and potentially fatal diseases. Vaccines stimulate the immune system to recognize and fight off specific pathogens, preventing infections before they can cause harm. Vaccination schedules for puppies and kittens typically include both core and optional vaccines, with core vaccines being essential for all pets, while optional vaccines may be recommended depending on the animal's lifestyle, environment, or geographic location.

Rabies is a fatal viral disease that affects the nervous system and can be transmitted to humans. It is almost always fatal once symptoms appear, making vaccination an essential part of public health and animal protection. Most countries legally require rabies vaccination for puppies. FVR is caused by the feline herpesvirus and is a leading cause of upper respiratory infections in cats. It can lead to severe respiratory distress and in some cases, death. Calicivirus is another common cause of respiratory infections in cats. It can cause mouth ulcers and in severe cases, pneumonia, which can be fatal without treatment.

Mostly referred as "feline distemper," this viral disease can cause severe vomiting, diarrhea and a drop in white blood cells, leading to

immunosuppression and death, especially in young kittens. Like in dogs, rabies vaccination is essential for kittens to protect both the animal and the public from this fatal disease. *Bordetella* is a bacteria that causes kennel cough, a highly contagious respiratory disease. It is one of the most dangerous diseases for puppies and vaccination is important for prevention. Vaccination is particularly recommended for puppies that will be in contact with other dogs, such as in boarding facilities, dog parks, or grooming salons.

Leptospirosis is a bacterial infection that can cause liver and kidney damage, as well as being transmissible to humans. It is more common in areas with standing water and dogs who are frequently outdoors or in contact with wildlife may benefit from this vaccine. Lyme disease, caused by bacteria transmitted by ticks, is prevalent in certain regions. Puppies that spend time outdoors in tick-prone areas may need this vaccine. Parvovirus is a highly contagious viral disease that primarily affects puppies, causing severe gastrointestinal symptoms, dehydration and if untreated, death.

FeLV is a viral infection that weakens the immune system and can lead to cancer, anemia and other life-threatening conditions. Kittens who go outdoors or have exposure to infected cats should receive this vaccine. This bacterial infection can cause conjunctivitis (eye inflammation) in cats. It is recommended for kittens in environments with high cat populations, such as shelters. FIV is a virus similar to HIV in humans and it weakens the immune system. This vaccine is typically recommended for kittens that are likely to be exposed to outdoor cats, especially those with high-risk behaviour.

Vaccination is a base of preventative veterinary care for puppies and kittens, ensuring that young animals are protected from dangerous diseases. Core vaccines are essential for all pets and protect against the most serious illnesses, while optional vaccines provide additional protection for pets with specific risk factors. Working with a veterinarian to develop a vaccination schedule tailored to a puppy or kitten's lifestyle and health needs is key to ensuring a healthy start to life. By adhering to recommended vaccination schedules, pet owners can help prevent the spread of disease and ensure their pets lead long, healthy lives.

**Citation:** William G (2024) Core and Optional Vaccines for Puppies and Kittens. *J Vet Sci Med Diagn* 13:5.