



## Congratulations on your new addition to the family!

Your kitten will give you unconditional love and friendship that cannot be replaced. We, at Oasis Animal Hospital, want to help keep your kitten as healthy and happy as possible!

***To ensure your kitten receives complete preventative care to protect against disease, we recommend a series of four (4) visits. During these visits, your kitten will receive the following to maintain good health.***

### 6-9 Weeks Old

- 1st Kitten Wellness Exam
- 1st FVRCP Vaccine
- Intestinal Parasite Testing
- Deworming - Based on weight, only if positive
- Heartworm & Flea Prevention - Single dose based on weight
- Client Education - Discuss questions or concerns

### 9-12 Weeks Old

- 2nd Kitten Wellness Exam
- 2nd FVRCP Vaccine Booster
- Feline Immunodeficiency Virus Test
- Heartworm & Flea Prevention - Single dose based on weight
- Deworm - as needed
- Client Education - Discuss questions or concerns

### 12-16 Weeks Old

- 3rd Kitten Wellness Exam
- 3rd FVRCP Vaccine Booster
- 1st FeLV Vaccine Booster
- Internal Parasite Testing - only if positive last visit\*
- Heartworm & Flea Prevention - Single dose based on weight
- Client Education - Discuss questions or concerns

### 16+ Weeks Old

- 4th Kitten Wellness Exam
- 4th FVRCP Vaccine Booster
- 2nd FeLV Vaccine Booster
- Rabies Vaccine
- Internal Parasite Testing - only if positive last visit\*
- Heartworm & Flea Prevention - Single dose based on weight
- Client Education - Discuss questions or concerns

*Please monitor your kitten for any vaccine reactions such as vomiting, diarrhea, lethargy, pain at the injection site, hives, swelling of the face or breathing problems. These problems are not common but they can happen. Please call us immediately if you have any concerns so that the doctor can determine what treatment your kitten needs.*

# Why Do We Booster?

Just like people, cats receive a certain degree of immunity (known as maternal immunity) that is passed from their mothers at birth and also shortly thereafter through her milk. Vaccinations cannot effectively stimulate the kitten's immune system until this maternal immunity wears off. Because maternal immunity declines slowly over time, kittens should be vaccinated every 2 to 4 weeks until they are about 4 months old. This ensures that your kitten receives an effective dose of vaccine soon after maternal protection is gone.

*For these reasons, we recommend restricting access to unvaccinated cats until the full series of vaccinations has been given is important to avoid disease.*

## A HELPFUL GUIDE TO KEEP YOUR KITTEN HAPPY AND HEALTHY THEIR WHOLE LIFE:

### **NUTRITION**

Good food and plenty of fresh water are needed to allow your kitten to reach its full potential. We recommend feeding your kitten good quality kitten food for the first year of life. After reaching one year old, you can slowly switch your cat to a good quality adult cat food. Food brands we recommend: Purina Pro Plan, Royal Canin, and Hills Science Diet.

### **SPAY & NEUTER**

All pets not being used for breeding purposes should be spayed (females) or neutered (males) between 5 and 6 months of age. It is preferable to spay the females before they come into heat to drastically decrease their chances of developing mammary cancer. Males should be neutered at that age to decrease the risk of prostate diseases and behavioral issues.

### **FLEAS & TICKS**

Flea and tick control is important for keeping your pet both comfortable and healthy. In addition to causing allergic reactions, fleas and ticks can spread disease and parasites. These problems can be reduced or prevented with routine flea and tick control. Be aware that many over the counter flea and tick products are dangerous to cats. Reactions such as seizures and death can occur. Please discuss what product is best for your cat with the veterinarian.

# HEARTWORM DISEASE

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal condition caused by parasitic worms living in the heart of our pets. Heartworms are transmitted when a mosquito bites an infected animal and then bites your pet. These adult worms can grow up to six inches long and can eventually cause severe respiratory disease, congestive heart failure, and death. There is no approved treatment for feline heartworm disease. Although dogs are the preferred host for heartworms, an unprotected cat has a 15-30% chance of getting infected, even if they live indoors. We recommend monthly heartworm prevention for all cats.

# INTESTINAL PARASITE SCREENINGS

Animals are susceptible to many types of intestinal parasites, including worms. To determine if your pet is carrying any intestinal parasites, we must analyze a stool sample to look for their eggs, because not all worms can be seen visually in the stool. We recommend this test twice yearly. Tapeworm eggs are rarely found on the intestinal parasite exam therefore we rely on you to let us know if any are present. Tapeworms resemble rice and can be seen in the stool or on the hair around the tail or anus. If any parasites are detected, we will provide the proper medication to treat them.

# MICROCHIPS

A microchip containing a unique identification number is inserted under the skin of your pet. This may be done at any time but is convenient to do the day your pet is spayed or neutered. Using a special scanner, veterinarians and local humane societies can read the chip, identify the pet, and contact the owners if the pet has been lost. It is very important that once your pet is microchipped that you keep your contact information, including address and phone number, current with Home Again.

# YEARLY EXAMS

After your kitten has gone through the series of kitten vaccines, it is recommended that your cat come in yearly for a comprehensive physical exam and annual vaccine boosters. Examples of common diseases that we could find on physical exams are dental disease, ear infections, and arthritis

## SENIOR CARE

Your cat is considered a senior at the age of 11. We recommend doing yearly blood work, a urinary analysis, and other diagnostics to determine the health of your older pet. These tests can show the presence of underlying disease. By catching these problems early, we can discuss ways to keep your pet as healthy as possible.

## DENTAL CARE

Untreated dental disease can lead to tooth loss and life threatening diseases. Bacteria from tooth decay and gum disease can enter your pet's bloodstream and result in infection in the heart, lungs, and other parts of the body. It is estimated that 85%-90% of all pets over the age of three years old suffer from some degree of tooth decay and gum disease. Deposits of plaque build-up on your pet's teeth which hardens and turns to tartar causing inflammation of the gums (gingivitis) and breaks down ligaments that connect the teeth with bone and gum tissue (periodontitis). Home dental care as well as early and proper prophylactic teeth cleaning prevent these problems. Home dental care is vital to prevent plaque build-up and tartar. Many dental care products are available and we will be happy to advise you regarding the best option for your pet.

## OUR CLINIC INFORMATION



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