



Railway Veterinary Clinic

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Why vaccinate your dog?

Five serious diseases threaten your dog throughout its life.

Three of these, **Canine Distemper**, **Infectious Canine Hepatitis** and **Canine Parvovirus**, are caused by viruses; the remainder, two forms of **Leptospirosis**, are caused by bacteria. **Parainfluenza Virus** is an important cause of Kennel Cough - a highly contagious cough which is as the name suggests often affects dogs at kennelling.

During the first few weeks after birth, a puppy is usually protected by antibodies received from its mother's first milk. This protection wears off quite soon and when it has disappeared puppies may fall victim to any of these diseases which can be fatal. A particularly distressing feature of some of these illnesses is that damage can often be caused to puppies which may not become apparent until later in life.

Prevention by vaccination is therefore all the more important and ideally should be started in puppyhood and maintained by annual booster doses throughout the animal's life. Even if your dog is older and has never been vaccinated it is worth considering this as the dog population is growing and this means that diseases will also spread quicker. It is possible that some dogs may feel "off-colour" for a day or two after vaccination and a few animals may show mild reaction at the site of injection. If such signs are severe or prolonged please do not hesitate to contact us.

Puppy's age

6-8 weeks

10-12 weeks

Vaccination schedule

1st vaccination followed by

2nd vaccination

Note Puppies coming from high risk environment can be vaccinated before 6 weeks of age

then: Annual Booster vaccination

Is your dog mixing with a number of other dogs or going to the kennels when you are away? Then it needs a **Kennel Cough vaccination**. Ask your Vet!

Also see our Puppy Leaflet with information on worming, training and feeding.