



The Rabies Vaccine

This is a core vaccine. We vaccinate for this disease because the benefit of this vaccination largely outweighs the risk of a severe vaccine reaction.

Rabies Vaccine protects against rabies virus.

Rabies is a viral infection that affects all warm-blooded animals. It is a zoonotic disease, meaning it can be transmitted between species, including transmission to humans. It is transmitted via the bite of an infected animal and is almost always fatal.

*Legality: Rabies is legally required for all dogs in the state of California. For this reason, if your pet were to bite a human, they are protected against any legal action if they are already vaccinated for rabies.

Where we give the Rabies vaccine: Scruff area between the shoulder blades.

What to expect: It is uncommon, however soreness or mild swelling at the injection site can occur. Lethargy for the first 24 hours after vaccination is common and not worrisome.

Vaccine reactions to call us about: Also uncommon, but your pet should be seen by a veterinarian immediately if you see any of the following within the first 24 hours of vaccination:

- Facial swelling
- Vomiting/diarrhea
- Hives
- Large swelling at injection site
- Fever
- Lack of appetite
- Extreme weakness or difficulty breathing