



The Rattlesnake Vaccine

This is a “lifestyle” vaccine. We recommend it if your dog has exposure to environments where rattlesnakes may live. The vaccine may help decrease the severity of a rattlesnake bite reaction and can increase the amount of time you have to get to an emergency facility. (Ex: you are hiking and do not have a speedy mode of transportation) **It is still considered a medical emergency if your dog gets bitten by a rattlesnake. Even if vaccinated, your dog will still need emergency veterinary care and rattlesnake anti-venom as soon as possible**

Where we give the Rattlesnake vaccine: Right or Left shoulder

What to expect: Soreness or mild swelling at the injection site can occur and even last up to 4 weeks. Your pet only needs to be seen if this doesn't resolve within 4 weeks or if they exhibit pain at the injection site for over 24 hours or develops an abscess in the area of the injection site. 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