



The Rattlesnake Vaccine.

- Purpose:
 - Decreases the severity of a rattlesnake bite reaction.
 - Increases 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. Your dog does need the rattlesnake anti-venom as soon as possible.**
- Where we give the vaccine: Right or Left shoulder area off the midline (not over the spine area)
- 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 s/he exhibits pain at the injection site for over 24 hours.
 - Lethargy for the first 24 hours after vaccination is common and not worrisome.
- Vaccine reactions to call us about: Quite uncommon (less than 1%), but we'd like to see you and your dog back right away 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 and lack of appetite

Based on your dog's lifestyle and risk, this vaccine was recommended. The benefit of this vaccination largely outweighs the risk of a severe vaccine reaction.