

Vaccinations

DHPPiL – prevents against canine Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, Leptospirosis and Parainfluenza virus. The first vaccine is usually given at 6-8 weeks of age, repeat 2 injections 4 weeks apart, then annual booster for life. If your dog has missed a vaccine, they can easily be restarted and a booster may be recommended after 1 month.

Rabies – done together with microchipping, compulsory in all dogs over 5 months old in Hong Kong. This vaccination needs to be updated every 3 years.

Kennel cough – required if your dog goes into boarding facilities. Also recommended if your dog mixes with other dogs at the park or grooming salon. Can be given at 12-16 weeks of age, then annual booster.

Leptospirosis (L4) – this protects against an additional 4 strains of the bacteria from the DHPPiL vaccine. It is recommended for very active dogs who go hiking or outside frequently, especially if they like to swim or drink from puddles etc.

General preventative medicine for dogs

The following vaccinations and preventatives are recommended to keep your pet protected.

Heartworm

Heartworm disease is a serious and potentially fatal infection of the heart, involving a parasitic worm, *Dirofilaria immitis*. Heartworm is spread by infected mosquitoes, which inject a heartworm larva into a dog when they bite.

Deworming

Dogs are susceptible to a number of intestinal worm infections, including tapeworm, hookworm, roundworm and whipworm.

Puppies should be treated for intestinal worms at each initial vaccination, and then every 3-6 months as an adult.

Flea & Tick Prevention

Flea and tick prevention is recommended for all dogs. Tick fever is a common and dangerous disease in Hong Kong causing severe anaemia in dogs. Using tick prevention can dramatically reduce the risk of a tick bite.

Different types of products are available including monthly spot-on treatments such as Frontline and oral tablets such as Bravecto (every 3 months).

In addition to this, a tick collar is also recommended. Seresto lasts for 7-8 months and is waterproof.