

SAMPLE: Medical, Intake Protocol

Summary: Lifesaving centers administer a standardized set of vaccinations and preventive care on a set schedule according to Operational Protocol to promote individual and population health and streamline organizational operations.

Operational Procedure: All animals entering our care receive an intake exam, vaccines, prophylactic deworming, and ectoparasite prevention upon arrival. Dogs also receive heartworm prevention. Routine screening is performed for heartworm in dogs.

Timing:

- Intake exam and treatments should be performed as soon as reasonably possible after entering care and must be completed the same day as arrival.
- A 2-3 week range for booster vaccination is given. Staff should strive to vaccinate at the short end of this range, particularly for animals housed on-site (at higher risk). Foster or operational logistical issues may make vaccination at the 2-week mark difficult, and any time within the 2-3 week range is medically acceptable.

Intake exam: An intake exam should be performed by a trained staff member (veterinarian, technician, or designated staff member trained in medical intake protocols).

Record-keeping: All exam findings and treatments are entered into medical/shelter software in a timely manner.

Puppies (less than 6 months):

- Modified live DHPP
 - Initial vaccine: 4 weeks of age (or upon arrival if older)
 - Additional doses: every 2-3 weeks until 18-20 weeks of age
 - Location: right forelimb/scapula area
- Intranasal Bordetella and parainfluenza
 - Initial vaccine: 4 weeks of age (or upon arrival if older)
- Rabies:
 - If 3 months of age or older, rabies may be given at intake, if allowed by law/circumstances
 - Location: right rear limb
- Pyrantel (50mg/ml): 1ml/10 lbs by mouth on intake, repeat every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age
- Ponazuril: 50mg/kg by mouth once
- Heartworm prevention beginning at 8 weeks, repeat according to label
- Flea/tick prevention beginning at 8 weeks, repeat according to label
- Microchip (except if neonate) if not already present on scan

Adult Dogs (6 months or older):

- Modified live DHPP
 - Initial vaccine upon intake
 - Second dose: one additional dose in 2-3 weeks; next due in one year, then every 3 years
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- Location: right forelimb/scapula area
- Intranasal Bordetella and parainfluenza
 - Initial vaccine upon intake, then annually
- Rabies:
 - May be given at intake, if allowed by law/circumstances
 - Location: right rear limb
- Nursing/pregnant dogs are vaccinated according to protocol.
- Pyrantel (50mg/ml): 1ml/10 lbs by mouth upon intake
- Heartworm antigen test (any brand)
- Heartworm prevention, repeat according to label
- Flea/tick prevention, repeat according to label
- Microchip if not already present on scan

Kittens (less than 6 months):

- Modified live FVCRP
 - Initial vaccine: 4 weeks of age (or upon arrival if older)
 - Additional doses: every 2-3 weeks until 18-20 weeks of age.
 - Location: Distal right forelimb (below elbow)
- Rabies:
 - if 3 months of age or older, rabies may be given at intake, if allowed by law/circumstances
 - Location: distal right rear limb (below hock)
- Pyrantel (50mg/ml): 1ml/10 lbs by mouth on intake, repeat every 2 weeks until 12 weeks of age.
- Ponazuril: 50mg/kg by mouth once
- Flea prevention beginning at 6-8 weeks, repeat according to label.
- Microchip (except if neonate) if not already present on scan

Adult Cats (6 months or older):

- Modified live FVCRP
 - Initial vaccine: 4 weeks of age (or upon arrival if older)
 - Additional doses: every 2-3 weeks until 18-20 weeks of age
 - Location: Distal right forelimb (below elbow)
 - Rabies:
 - if 3 months of age or older, rabies may be given at intake, if allowed by law/circumstances
 - Location: distal right rear limb (below hock)
 - Nursing and pregnant cats are vaccinated according to protocol
 - Pyrantel (50mg/ml): 1ml/10 lbs by mouth on intake
 - Flea prevention beginning at 8 weeks, repeat according to label
 - Microchip if not already present on scan
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