



Fredericton

**ANIMAL HOSPITAL**

## Preventive Care for Dogs

<b>PHYSICAL EXAMINATION</b>	Our pets age much faster than we do, so an annual check up for your dog is like a person only going to the doctor once every 5 to 10 years. A physical exam can detect many diseases in the early stages so treatment is more likely to be effective and less expensive.	Every 6 to 12 months
<b>RABIES VACCINATION</b>	Vaccination is the best prevention for this untreatable disease which is also a risk to your family. Rabies vaccination is required by law.	Every 3 years after booster
<b>DHPP VACCINATION</b>	Distemper causes fatal pneumonia and neurologic disease. Hepatitis virus causes fatal liver disease. Parainfluenza is a flu-like virus. Parvovirus causes a potentially fatal gastrointestinal disease.	Every 3 years after booster
<b>BORDETELLA VACCINE</b>	A bacterial infection of the upper respiratory system that can lead to chronic bronchitis or pneumonia. All dogs using a kennel, groomer or that may require hospitalization are required to have this vaccine.	Yearly
<b>LYME DISEASE VACCINE</b>	Lyme disease is a potentially fatal infection that also causes a lifelong arthritis or heart disease. It is transmitted by ticks. This vaccine is recommended for dogs at high risk. Pets with this disease can be a risk to humans when a tick moves from the pet to the human. We recommend an individual risk assessment.	Yearly
<b>LEPTOSPIROSIS VACCINE</b>	Leptospirosis is a bacterial infection that mainly affects dogs. It is found in standing water and soil. It can cause liver and kidney failure and lung disease. We recommend an individual risk assessment.	Every 3 years
<b>HEARTWORM TEST</b>	A large percentage of dogs not on preventives are infected with heartworms — a fatal disease of the heart and lungs. This disease is also carried by wild dogs, fox, coyotes and wolves. We recommend an individual risk assessment.	Yearly
<b>HEARTWORM PREVENTION</b>	Heartworm infection leads to fatal heart and lung disease. Infection is by mosquito bite and prevention is vital wherever mosquitoes live.	Monthly. (Applied by owner)
<b>INTESTINAL PARASITE SCREENING</b>	Fecal floatation checks for the presence of intestinal worms and other parasites. Some of these parasites can be a risk to your family if not treated and will also cause gastrointestinal disease in your pet.	Every 6 months
<b>PREVENTIVE BLOOD TESTING</b>	Yearly blood testing will help identify underlying problems with your pets' internal organ function that is not apparent in a physical examination. Some areas evaluated are liver and kidney function, blood sugar, and protein levels. In most cases, a complete blood count is also performed to evaluate for anemia, infection and other disease states. The level of testing will depend on your pets' age and physical condition, and risk factors.	1-2 times per year
<b>FLEA/TICK PREVENTION</b>	Fleas will be active when the temperature reaches 7 degrees C. Fleas, mites and ticks can cause allergic dermatitis leading to skin infections. They also carry several blood parasites that can seriously affect your pet. Prevention is far easier and less expensive than treatment. Many products combine this prevention with heartworm prevention.	Monthly. (Applied by owner)
<b>MICROCHIP ID</b>	A safe and permanent identification for your pet	Once
<b>DENTAL CLEANING AND ORAL CARE</b>	Pets with yellowish brown tartar accumulation on the teeth should have their teeth cleaned, just as humans do, to prevent bad breath, gum disease and tooth loss. As dental disease progresses, bacteria enter the blood through inflamed gums, possibly leading to heart and kidney failure. Hard food and treats are not effective alone at preventing tartar accumulation.	Every 1 to 3 years
<b>ADVANCED TESTING</b>	Your veterinarian may suggest more advanced testing if your pet is a senior or geriatric. These tests are also suggested for certain breeds of higher risk categories. These tests may include radiographs (x-rays), urinalysis or electrocardiogram. We strongly urge yearly thyroid testing in all dogs more than 7 years old.	As needed