



**Birchwood
Animal Hospital**
For the love of animals since 1959

Birchwood Animal Hospital

2595 Portage Avenue
Winnipeg, MB | R3J 0P5
www.birchwoodvet.com | birchwood@mymts.net
(204) 832-1368 | Fax (204) 889-9708

Veterinary Care – Life Stages FELINE

At what stage of life does your pet require routine veterinary care? The following guideline will help determine when to plan a visit.

6-8 weeks of age

- *Physical Examination* A physical examination appointment consists of: recording the current weight of your pet and the assessment of body condition, skin and hair coat, abdomen, ears, eyes, urinary system, rectum, nose and throat, lymph nodes, mouth, teeth and gums, legs, paws and spine, heart and lungs as well as the nervous system. Evaluations and recommendations are provided in written form for your personal records.
- Initial FVRCP Vaccination For the vaccination of healthy cats against feline rhinotracheitis, calicivirus and panleukopenia virus.
- Feline Leukemia Virus Vaccination (if required)
- Feline Leukemia Virus / Feline Immunodeficiency Virus discussion
- Deworming

12 weeks of age

- Physical Examination
- Second FVRCP Vaccination
- Second Feline Leukemia Virus Vaccination (if required)
- Deworming (if required)

16 weeks of age

- Physical Examination
- Rabies Vaccination (if at risk)

6 months of age

- Spay/Neuter Prevents unpleasant heat cycles, reproductive diseases, unwanted pregnancies reduces offensive urine odour and reduces the risk of inappropriate urination.
- Permanent Identification: Microchip and Ear Tattoo

1 year of age (~1 year after kitten second FVRCP or Rabies vaccination)

Annual physical examinations are recommended as changes to your pet's health can occur rapidly. These annual visits are important for disease prevention and early detection. Pets having been assessed and determined to be in good health may receive vaccination for potential contagious disease. The vaccine required may vary depending upon your pet's history, age and exposure, and will therefore be tailored to your pet's individual needs.

- Physical Examination
- FVRCP Vaccination
- Felv Vaccination (if at risk)
- Rabies Vaccination (if at risk)
- Deworming (if requested or necessary)

2-9 years of age

- Physical Examination
- Vaccination requirements vary and will be based upon your pet's individual lifestyle and health.



FVRCP vaccine will begin a 3 year rotation. Feline Leukemia Virus vaccine continues annually and Rabies will begin a 3 year rotation if the cat is at risk.

- Deworming (if requested or necessary)

9 + years of age (Seniors)

- Physical Examination
- Vaccination requirements vary per year. Any adjustment to our vaccination protocol is determined by age, history and exposure.
- Wellness Profile (Includes red and white cell counts, platelet numbers, kidney function, liver function, blood sugar and protein levels) & thyroid function.

Our vaccination protocol is continually updated to reflect local risk and the most current recommendations of the AAHA and AAFP.

Collection of Samples for Analysis

Blood: Please do not feed your pet 8 hours prior to blood collection for routine Wellness Profile testing.
Fasting is not necessary for diabetic pets.

Urine:

- Approximately 1 tablespoon (minimum) is ideal.
- As fresh as possible for accurate results.
- NoSorb, a plastic pelleted cat litter can be used in place of regular litter while obtaining the sample for submission. Kit 4 Kat is a similar substrate used for urine collection and may be preferred by some cats.
- If at-home collection is not possible, we can hospitalize your cat for a short period if the bladder does not present an ideal capacity upon palpation.
- Samples collected and stored 4 hours or longer should be refrigerated prior to submission at earliest convenience.
- All samples over 20 hours old will not provide accurate results and are therefore considered unacceptable.
- Do not freeze sample.
- Must be free of debris or other contaminant (including snow and other fluids).

Feces:

- Approximately 1 tablespoon (minimum) is ideal.
- As fresh as possible for accurate results! This is especially important if your pet is experiencing diarrhea or if mucous is present in the stool.
- All samples over 20 hours old will not provide accurate results and are therefore considered unacceptable.
- Refrigerate only if both of the following conditions apply simultaneously: Suspected exposure to parasites AND the sample is over 4 hours old.
- Do not freeze samples.
- Small amounts of debris may be acceptable in most cases.

