



Southside Animal Clinic Vaccine/Health Protocol

First Visit (~8 weeks old):

- A full physical exam will be done to assess your pet's health.
- We will record his/her weight.
- We will check for external parasites and help you pick appropriate prevention.
- We will check a stool sample for parasites and start a de-worming program.
- We will discuss training, grooming, nutrition and any other questions/concerns you have.
- If heartworm season, we will discuss your pet's needs for testing and prevention.

Second Visit (~12 weeks old):

- We will recheck your pet's weight.
- A physical exam will be repeated to note any changes and ensure adequate growth.
- We will booster the vaccines (to achieve proper immunization levels).
- We will check a stool sample if not done previously.
- We will follow-up on previous discussions regarding training, grooming, nutrition, etc. and answer any new questions you have.

Third Visit (~16 weeks old):

- We will once again recheck the weight.
- A physical exam will be repeated.
- We will booster the vaccines (to achieve proper immunization levels).
- We will give your pet its first rabies vaccination.
- We will discuss the need for any elective vaccines for your pet.
- We will answer any questions you may have.
- We will discuss the benefits of spaying/neutering your animal and the appropriate timing to have this done based on their breed.
- We will discuss the need for pre-anesthetic blood work to prepare for your pet's spay/neuter. We may get a blood sample at this visit for this purpose.

From this point on, unless you have concerns with your pet, we will see you 1 year after the rabies vaccine and yearly afterwards. Annual physical examinations are important to your pet's health and well being. This allows us to update vaccines, identify changes in body condition and facilitate early detection of many underlying medical conditions. Animals age more rapidly than humans and therefore need to have more physical exams than we do. Preventive health care and nutrition are key to a long and healthy life.