

# Dehelminthization and Preventive Vaccination for Dogs and Cats

## Abstract

If your pet comes in contact with the animals and people, you can expect that one day he will suffer from infectious diseases or parasitic diseases. Dehelminthization and preventive vaccination will help your pet to stay healthy.

Since from the mother to the puppies or kittens can pass through the placenta very few antibodies, it is necessary that a puppy or kitten suck the first milk (colostrum) because it contains a large amount of antibodies. The colostrum is responsible for the formation of natural passive immunity. Also, as the antibodies pass through the placenta, gastro - intestinal parasites pass it too. When the puppy reaches the age of 6 weeks or kitten 9 weeks, it must be vaccinated against infectious diseases because it is no longer protected by the mother's antibodies. The vaccine produce artificial active immunity. If preventive vaccination approaches before the age of 6 or 9 weeks, the mother's antibodies will inactivate the vaccine.

**Keywords:** Infectious Diseases; Vaccination; Colostrum; Immunity; Puppy; Antibodies

## Opinion

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## Recommended Program for Dehelminthization the Dog

- Puppies should get their first dehelminthization at the age of 10 days, and then repeat it at ages of 20 and 30 days. The process is repeated at the age of 8 and 12 weeks.
- Gestating bitch should get first dehelintization in mid-gestation - about the 30th day, and then around the 50th day.
- Lactating bitches should get dehelminthization 1, 4 and 7 weeks after birth. According to this program, bitches who do not breastfeed, or bitches who have the puppies rejected earlier, should also be dehelminthized.
- Other dogs are dehelminthized after reaching age of 6 months every 3 months.
- Before each dehelminthization is necessary to consult with a veterinarian and carefully read the manufacturer's instructions.

## The Recommended Program for Preventive Vaccination the Dog

- Puppies should be vaccinated against infectious diseases (parvovirus infections, distemper, adenovirus infection, parainfluenza, leptospirosis) after the age of 6 weeks. A booster dose is then performed two more times with a time interval of 3 weeks. Annual booster should be given to maintain immunity once a year.
- Before each vaccination is necessary to consult with a veterinarian.

## Recommended Program for Dehelminthization the Cat

- Kittens should get their first dehelminthization at age from 10 to 14 days. Regular weekly dehelminthization should be

repeated the next two to three weeks until the kittens do not refuse (aged 5-7 weeks). If there is a risk of infestation, kittens can regularly be dehelminthized up to 12 weeks with a time span of 14 days.

- Cats older than 12 weeks held in appropriate hygienic conditions it is sufficient to do dehelminthization every 3 months. However, if the cat is kept in poor hygienic conditions, it is necessary to do dehelminthization at shorter intervals.
- Lactating cats from 2 to 10 weeks after giving birth should be dehelminthized at intervals of 2 weeks.
- Adult cats are dehelminthized every 3 months.
- Before each dehelminthization is necessary to consult with a veterinarian and carefully read the manufacturer's instructions.

## The Recommended Program for Preventive Vaccination the Cat

- Kittens should be vaccinated against infectious diseases (panleukopenia, viral rhinotracheitis, Calicivirus infection, leukemia virus) from the age of 9 weeks twice with an interval 3-4 weeks. To maintain continuous protection, vaccination should be repeated annually.
- Before each vaccination is necessary to consult with a veterinarian.

## Acknowledgement

With these programs I had the most success in practice. Programs were carried out according to the manufacturer of anthelmintic and vaccines that I used.