

Barkley's Release Instructions

*Barkley's care instructions created by Dr. Nancy DiMarco on July 29, 2016
If there are any questions or concerns please call
Bluffs Animal Hospital 561-626-4813*

Barkley's Vital Statistics

Barkley's Guardian



Birth Date:

Sample Client

Breed:

Sex:

Temp:

Color:

Weight:

INFECTIOUS DISEASE RISK ASSESSMENT

Risk Assessment Information

Infectious diseases are rarely observed in well-vaccinated pets. But, preventable disease occurs frequently in pets that are not protected by vaccination. Depending on age and exposure factors we routinely vaccinate pets against 4-8 different diseases. Some vaccines are approved for and provide proven immunity for durations of up to three years. For other vaccines, research currently proves only one year of immunity. Combination vaccines are used to minimize the number of injections for the comfort of your pet.

Your pet's health is important to us. Although we do not recommend over vaccinating to maintain good health, we believe it is important that every owner understand that under-vaccinating may be deadly. The health of you and your family is also very important. All pets need to be vaccinated for Rabies that can be transmitted to people. Dogs that go outdoors, where wildlife have access to, need to be vaccinated for Leptospirosis which can be transmitted to people.

Vaccines are not without risks. On rare occasions a pet may have an adverse or allergic reaction. There are no guarantees that vaccines will not hurt your pet. When such histories exist, measures may be taken prior to vaccination to minimize the risk of an adverse reaction, or a particular vaccine may be avoided or given less frequently, depending on the pet's potential exposure to infection. We recommend monitoring your pet for 4-6 hours after vaccination. We use only non-adjuvanted vaccines for cats because they are safer. Adjuvants are chemicals added to some vaccines to help stimulate the immune system to respond, but they can also trigger more reactions in a small number of predisposed cats.

Individual vaccine protocols must balance the benefit of disease prevention and the risk of immunity breakdown with potential adverse effects of vaccines. We keep up to date on all current scientific and medical research that affects how vaccine protocols will be customized for your pet. Our recommendations will be based on your pet's individual circumstances and will reflect the protocols we use for our own beloved pets in similar situations.

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Answering the following questions will help us develop a customized vaccination program to protect your pet.

This is only a partial list of the factors that influence disease risk. We may have additional questions to help determine a vaccination program that is best for your pet. If you have additional questions or concerns, please ask us.

The numbers after each question correspond to the vaccinations listed

below. 

RISK FACTORS

Does your dog ever go outdoors? (1-4)

Yes, my dog goes outdoors

Does your dog ever come into contact with other dogs or areas that other dogs are in? (1-5)

Yes, my dog comes into contact with other dogs

Is your dog ever in outdoor areas that wildlife (such as rodents, squirrels, possums, raccoons, foxes, or skunks) have access to? (4)

Yes, my dog goes places that wildlife may be

Is your dog exposed to ticks in areas where Lyme Disease is a risk (Northeast, Upper Midwest)? (6)

Yes, my dog may get ticks in a Lyme Disease area.

Does your dog ever pick up ticks?

Yes, my dog may sometimes picks up ticks

Does your dog ever go to a groomer, day care, or boarding facility? (1,2,5,7)

Yes, my dog goes to a groomer or boarding facility

Does your dog ever go to a dog park, beach, or common area that other pets go to? (1-5,7)

Yes, my dog goes to a park or common areas

Does your dog ever go to Dog shows? (1,2,5,7)

Yes, my dog goes to Dog shows

Has your pet ever had an adverse or allergic reaction to a vaccine?

No, my pet has never had an adverse reaction

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Do you have any other dogs with any different circumstances than this dog?

No, I do not have dogs with different circumstance

Is any person in the house immuno-compromised or taking immunosuppressive medications?

No, no person is immuno-compromised.



Recommended Immunizations

1. Distemper/Adenovirus/Parainfluenza Virus Distemper is a viral disease of dogs that is usually fatal. The term dis-temper literally means "Bad" "Temper". It is an old term which meant severe cold or flu. It affects the respiratory system causing severe flu-like symptoms at first. Most puppies will survive this episode, but approximately two weeks later, they will develop the severe neurologic form of the disease. The virus then infects the brain and the puppy may have "chewing gum fits" and seizures. If puppies or adult dogs survive the acute infection, they may have seizures later in life.

Distemper 3-year Vaccination is Recommended for all pets.

2. Parvovirus Parvovirus is a highly contagious disease of dogs that often results in death, especially in puppies. Parvovirus normally infects the dog's intestines, lymphoid tissue and bone marrow. The result is vomiting; severe, often fatal, bloody diarrhea; and severe dehydration. It mostly affects young pets who have not been adequately immunized.

Parvovirus 3-year Vaccination is Recommended for all pets.

3. Rabies Virus Rabies is the most frequently requested vaccine for pets because most people have heard of this highly fatal viral infection of the nervous system which affects all warm-blooded animals species. Rabies is one of the few 100% fatal diseases that is transferable to humans from pets. It is a State Law that all dogs, cats, and ferrets be vaccinated for rabies once every three years. The vaccine is labeled for and has been proven to provide immunity for three years, however, in some states yearly or bi-annual vaccination is the law.

Rabies 3-year Vaccination is Recommended for all pets.

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4. Leptospirosis Leptospirosis is a bacterial disease that causes permanent kidney and liver damage, and is easily spread to other animals and to humans. Clinical signs include fever, vomiting, depression, dehydration, anorexia and muscular stiffness. Leptospirosis can lead to kidney failure, liver failure, and blood clotting disorders, all of which can be fatal. The bacteria are shed in the urine of wildlife such as rodents, squirrels, possums, raccoons, foxes, and skunks. There are several different variants, or serovars, of the Leptospirosis bacteria. The new vaccines immunize for four of the most common serovars. If your pet goes outside where wild animals can eliminate, there is a risk of exposure to leptospirosis. Leptospirosis is contagious to people.

Leptospirosis 1-year Vaccination is Recommended for all pets that go outdoors in our area due to the presence of wildlife that can transmit the disease.

5. Bordetella Bordetella is a highly contagious bacterium that causes respiratory disease and is a common contributor to canine cough and pneumonia. Dogs are usually vaccinated against Bordetella prior to boarding, grooming, dog shows, or exposure to groups of dogs. The vaccination should be given 10-days to two-weeks prior to boarding if possible. Signs of infection include a dry, hacking cough or coughing spasms followed by retching or gagging. Toy breeds and geriatric dogs are especially high risk for chronic respiratory disease. The intranasal vaccination gives some immunity within twenty-four to thirty-six hours. All puppies need to be vaccinated for Bordetella. Adult dogs are re-vaccinated every 12 months if they will have potential exposure.

Bordetella 1-year Vaccination is Recommended for all pets that are confined indoors with other dogs (groomer, day care, boarding) or are frequently in contact with other dogs, such as a park, beach, or other common areas.

6. Lyme Disease Lyme disease is caused by the bacterium *Borrelia burgdorferi* and is transmitted by the bite of an infected tick, and is the most common arthropod-borne disease among dogs and humans in the U.S. Signs of infection include lameness, evidence of severe pain, swollen joints, depression and a reluctance to move. Incidence varies by geographic region. The Northeast and Upper Midwest areas have the highest incidence. Pets should be vaccinated if they travel to an area where Lyme Disease is a risk and if they will have contact with ticks. If your pet has not been previously vaccinated, a booster vaccination is repeated in three weeks. Annual boosters are needed to maintain protection. Tick preventive products (spot-ons or collars) should always be used in tick endemic areas to help prevent infection of many different tick transmitted diseases.

Lyme Disease 1-year Vaccination is Recommended for your pet because it goes to areas where Lyme Disease is a significant risk and there is the potential tick exposure.

7. Canine Influenza Canine Influenza Virus (CIV), or dog flu, is a highly contagious respiratory infection of dogs that is caused by an influenza A virus. CIV causes mild disease in most dogs exposed. CIV can be spread by direct contact, airborne, or through contaminated objects or clothing. The CIV vaccination is a "lifestyle" vaccination, recommended for dogs at higher risk such as dog shows, boarding, grooming, dog parks, and attending events with groups of dogs present. Avoidance of exposure to other dogs is the best prevention. Vaccination is a series of 2 boosters given 2-4 weeks apart. Vaccination may not prevent infection altogether, but can reduce the severity and duration of illness and decrease the spread of infection - similar to human influenza vaccination.

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Canine Influenza 1-year Vaccination is Recommended for all dogs that are confined indoors with other dogs (dog shows, day care, boarding) or are frequently in contact with groups of other dogs, such as a dog park, beach, or other common areas.

Additional Information



Symptoms To Watch For After Vaccinations It is normal for your pet to feel sluggish for a day or two after vaccinations, especially for puppies and kittens. If this is severe or persistent, or if you see any other reactions such as hives, facial swelling, weakness or vomiting please call our office. After office hours call the Pet Emergency Clinic (Northlake Blvd, PBG) at 561-691-9999, Pet Emergency of North Palm Beach (Central Blvd, Jupiter) at 651-250-6613, or Veterinary Specialty Hospital (Hood Rd, PBG) at 561-625-9995. We recommend you monitor your pet for any reaction for 4-6 hours after vaccinations.

It is also not uncommon for a small, firm, painless swelling to form under the skin at the injection site. The swelling is almost always of no consequence and it usually disappears after several weeks. Please contact our office if you notice a swelling at the vaccine site, especially if it is persistent after 2 weeks or growing larger.

Heartworm Test - Occult This test will determine if adult, female heartworms are present in your pet's heart, which will help us determine if your pet has heartworms prior to the administration of heartworm preventative.

Annual Heartworm + 4DX Test This blood test screens for occult Heartworms and three of the most common tick transmitted diseases; Lyme Disease, Ehrlichia and Anaplasma infection. If your dog is exposed to ticks, this test should be done yearly.

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