



**FELINE DISEASES CAN  
THREATEN BOTH INDOOR  
AND OUTDOOR CATS.**

**DON'T SKIP  
OUT ON YOUR  
CAT'S HEALTH!**



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ALL CATS, EVEN INDOOR ONES, CAN RUN INTO  
A VARIETY OF HEALTH RISKS.

**A QUICK ASSESSMENT  
OF RISK FACTORS  
ASSOCIATED WITH  
LIFESTYLE WILL HELP  
IDENTIFY WHETHER  
YOUR CAT IS AT RISK.**



**1 DOES YOUR CAT SOCIALIZE WITH OTHER ANIMALS?**

Even an indoor cat is at moderate risk for contracting some of the easily transmittable common diseases if it socializes with other pets in your household.

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**2 HOW OFTEN DOES YOUR CAT HAVE ACCESS TO THE OUTDOORS?**

If your cat ever goes outdoors, you should discuss diseases that he or she may be susceptible to with your veterinarian.

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**3 DOES YOUR CAT HAVE CONTROLLED ACCESS TO THE OUTDOORS SUCH AS A FENCED YARD OR BALCONY?**

Even a small likelihood of contact with other animals, including wildlife, means your cat should be protected against some of the common diseases in cats. Potential exposure to mosquitoes and common parasites such as fleas are also an issue.

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**4 WOULD YOUR CAT EVER COME INTO CONTACT WITH BATS, EVEN IN AN INDOOR ENVIRONMENT?**

Contact with bats exposes your cat to the possibility of contracting rabies or other diseases. In many areas of Canada, rabies vaccination is mandatory for all dogs and cats, even ones who live indoors.

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**5 IS YOUR CAT OLDER THAN 10 YEARS OR YOUNGER THAN 6 MONTHS OF AGE?**

Older cats have an increased risk for contracting diseases even with incidental contact, as their immune response changes with age. Younger cats are also susceptible as their immune system is still developing.

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**6 HAS YOUR CAT EVER BEEN LOST OR GOTTEN OUT WITHOUT YOU KNOWING?**

When considering prevention of disease in cats, it's just as important to consider where they might get to if a door or window is inadvertently left open.

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**7 DOES YOUR CAT TRAVEL TO A GROOMER OR OUT OF TOWN WITH YOU ON VACATION?**

Whenever your cat travels outside of your home they are at risk for exposure to disease. Ask your veterinarian which prevention is appropriate.



## HERE'S A LIST OF SOME COMMON FELINE DISEASES THAT ARE PREVENTABLE WITH A VACCINE:

**PANLEUKOPENIA** is a contagious viral disease that causes a severe illness and is often fatal in kittens. The most common clinical signs are vomiting, diarrhea and a deficiency of white blood cells. The virus can survive in the environment for as long as a year, so cats can become infected even without direct exposure to an infected cat. Vaccination is an effective way to protect your cat from this disease.

**FELINE VIRAL RHINOTRACHEITIS (FVR)** is a serious upper respiratory tract viral infection that is characterized by sneezing, nasal discharge, rhinitis and conjunctivitis. Once infected, many cats remain carriers for the rest of their lives and often have numerous flare-ups requiring treatment. Indoor and outdoor cats are at risk and should be considered for vaccination.

**CALICIVIRUS** is another extremely contagious respiratory disease that affects cats of all ages. Clinical signs can include fever, mouth ulcers, occasional lameness and/or gingivitis/stomatitis. It also causes respiratory signs such as sneezing and conjunctivitis. Vaccination is important.

**FELINE LEUKEMIA (FeLV)** is a viral condition that attacks a cat's immune system and leaves them vulnerable to many other secondary infections. The virus is shed in the saliva, nasal secretions, urine and feces of an infected cat. Risk of exposure is therefore highest for cats that go outdoors and/or those that have direct contact with infected cats (like sharing a litter box or a food dish). Although many cats that become infected can live for many years, most will succumb to FeLV-associated diseases.

**RABIES** is a fatal viral disease that attacks the brain and the nervous system, and can affect both you and your cat. Even if your cat does not come into direct contact with infected wild animals, there is still the risk of transmission when broken skin comes into contact with infected saliva. Regular rabies vaccination may be mandatory in your community. Check your city's bylaws.

**CHLAMYDIOSIS** is an infectious disease which attacks the mucous membranes of the cat's eyes, nasal passage and sometimes their lungs as well. Vaccination can help protect your cat from this disease.

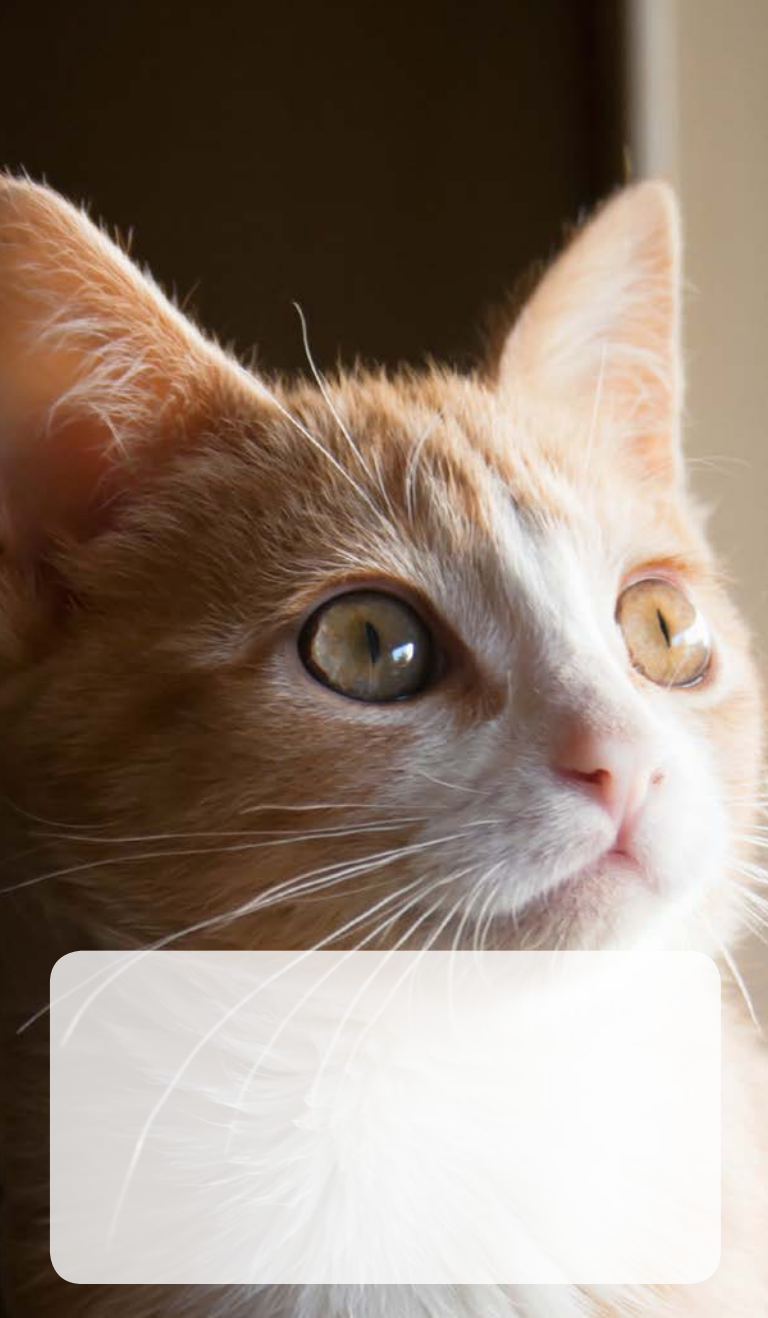
**CONSULT YOUR VETERINARIAN ABOUT WHICH VACCINES ARE APPROPRIATE FOR YOUR CAT DEPENDING ON THEIR AGE, LIFESTYLE AND PREVIOUS VACCINATION HISTORY.**

A close-up, low-angle shot of a person's hand gently holding a cat's head against a teal background. The person's hand is visible on the left, and the cat's head is on the right. The background is a solid teal color.

# VACCINATION RECOMMENDATIONS TAKE INTO CONSIDERATION PRACTICAL GUIDELINES, THE HEALTH OF YOUR PET AND YOUR CAT'S LIFESTYLE.

Be sure to bring your cat in for an annual preventative health assessment, so we can review your cat's needs and risks.





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