

Dr. Jean Dodds Recommended Vaccination Protocol

At our kennel, we choose to “titer test” our dogs to determine if vaccinations are even necessary — only then do we vaccinate. Most our dogs never vaccinated show enough maternal antibodies (from the mother’s milk) to be sufficient protection. Even as older dogs... Immune systems can last a life time (as research suggests). People vaccinate their dogs for every possible disease because they want their pets to be healthy, yet those two things are often incompatible. We encourage you to do your own research to learn more. Should you decide to Vaccinate, we recommend Dr. Jean Dodds Vaccination Protocol as shown below.

Vaccine	Initial	1st Annual Booster	Re-Administration Interval	Comments
Distemper <i>NOTE: (MLV) (e.g. Merck Nobivac DPV, or NeoVacD monovalent CDV only). Optional is recombinant rCDV Merial Recombitek, but only comes in combo with CPV & Hepatitis/Adenovirus or more antigens</i>	9-10 weeks; 14-15 weeks	At 1 year MLV Distemper/ Parvovirus only, or serum DPV antibody titers	None needed. Duration of immunity 7.5 to 15 years by studies. Probably lifetime.	Can have side effects if given too young (less than 8 weeks). Also can cause post-vaccinal encephalitis (PVE); see below.
Parvovirus <i>NOTE: (MLV) (e.g. Merck Nobivac DPV, or NeoPar monovalent CPV only)</i>	9-10 weeks; 14-15; 18 weeks. In endemic parvovirus outbreaks, MLV CPV vaccine can be given at 6 weeks initially; then followed up with protocol above.	At 1 year MLV Distemper/ Parvovirus only, or serum DPV antibody titers	None needed. Duration of immunity 7.5 years by studies. Probably lifetime. Longer studies pending.	At 6 weeks of age, less than 30% of puppies are protected but 100% are exposed to the ubiquitous CPV.
Rabies <i>NOTE: (only killed) Use only thimerosal (mercury-free) rabies vaccine Merial IMRAB TF-1, or Boehringer Ingelheim RabVac 1TF</i>	20-24 weeks or as legally required. Use only thimerosal (mercury-free) rabies vaccine Merial IMRAB TF-1, or Boehringer Ingelheim RabVac 1TF	1 year after puppy rabies (give 3-4 weeks apart from Dist/ Parvo booster) Killed 3 year thimerosal (mercury -free) rabies vaccine, Merial IMRAB TF-3, or Boehringer Ingeleim RabVac 3-TF	3 yr. vaccine given as required by law in California (follow your state/provincial requirements)	Rabid animals may infect dogs or any other mammal including people.

Vaccine

Comments

Distemper

at 6 weeks or younger

Not recommended. At this age, maternal antibodies from the mother’s milk (colostrum) will partially neutralize the vaccine, and giving MLV CDV vaccine earlier can cause vaccine-induced signs of distemper especially seizures and paralysis.

Parvovirus at 6 weeks

In endemic parvovirus outbreaks, MLV CPV vaccine can be given at 6 weeks initially; then followed up with usual protocol above.

Hepatitis

(Adenovirus 2) MLV often in a combo with CDV and CPV

Not preferred. Giving MLV CDV with Adenovirus-2 causes immune suppression for up to 10 days in puppies and increases chances of post-vaccinal encephalitis (PVE). Note: Merial Recombitek combo vaccine cannot cause PVE. IF adenovirus vaccination is desired, can give to older adolescents with oral or intranasal (not injectable) Bordetella as it induces interferon that protects against the upper respiratory viruses.

Coronavirus

Not recommended. Disease usually only affects young puppies that are malnourished and parasitized. Rare clinical disease. Mild self-limiting disease; produces orange-colored stool. Virus killed by 80 degrees F and dry housing.

Leptospirosis

(4-Way killed vaccine)

Not recommended. Rare clinical cases; a reportable zoonotic disease, so check local veterinary and public health agencies for documented cases. Vaccine side effects common. 4-way vaccine often contains the wrong serovars causing disease in local areas. There is poor cross-protection between serovars. Two doses initially needed given 3-4 weeks apart followed by yearly boosters.

Lyme Vaccine

Not recommended. Most cases are in Northeast and around the Great Lakes. Annual booster required after initial 2-dose series.

Bordetella (Oral or Intranasal) (killed bacterin).
Injectable version (not recommended)

Generally not recommended. Oral preferred over intranasal, as it cannot spray vaccine around the face and those close by. Injectable not recommended as it does not release interferon to protect against the other upper respiratory viruses (kennel cough). Not 100% effective; may be required for boarding or grooming. Offer to sign written waiver to hold facility harmless instead.

Parainfluenza Vaccine

Included as part of combo vaccines; but **rarely clinically important or needed.**

Influenza

Bi-Valent H3N2/H3N8
Killed Vaccine

Being widely recommended as these viruses are highly contagious. **Not recommended routinely by Dr. Dodds as disease is mild and self-limiting** unless fever is very high (>104 degrees F) and for those dogs harboring Streptococcus in their respiratory tracts. Distinguished from common kennel cough which does not produce a fever unless secondary pneumonia follows in 7-10 days. Influenza produces a fever immediately. 2 doses required 3-4 weeks apart and boosted annually.

