



Feline Vaccination policy for the remainder of 2023

Due to complicated supply problems post-COVID, there is currently a shortage of feline vaccines in Australia, and this is expected to continue until early 2024.

Therefore, at Piper Street Veterinary Clinic we have had to alter our approach to the annual health assessment and vaccination of cats.

Our key message is that we will prioritise vaccination of kittens and delay adult boosters if possible. We still encourage and recommend annual health examinations

Please read the following points to better understand what to expect when booking your cat in for annual health examination and vaccination.

1. PSVC will prioritise vaccination of previously unvaccinated kittens and cats wherever possible.
2. Adult cats that have had a series of 2–3 kitten vaccines and an annual booster are at much lower risk of vaccine-preventable infectious disease, as studies have demonstrated extended duration of immunity. Delaying boosters for adult cats until supply normalises in early 2024 is unlikely to have significant impact on their wellbeing. During an annual examination, the level of risk can be assessed.
3. For kittens, we will consider giving 2 vaccines rather than 3—and keeping kittens in a safe environment until they receive a final vaccine at 16 weeks.
4. For boarding facilities, we understand depending on locality they are governed by a code of practice that mandates annual vaccination. We are happy to work with them in deciding on a protocol that best satisfies their requirements and or providing them with details of our recommendation for individuals.
5. Once again, the absence of a vaccination does not remove the importance of an annual examination. Therefore in 2024 when supply normalises, we can organise a convenient time for just the administration of a vaccine.

Regards

Piper Street Veterinary Clinic