

## RIVERSIDE FAQ #7

### Q: What Should My Cat Have To Stay Healthy

**A: Wellness Examination** – A complete physical exam can detect problems very early when they are easier and less expensive to treat. Every pet should have an annual wellness exam. In senior pets, those over 7 years old, it is recommended every 6 months. Blood Chemistry panels, CBC, and urinalysis may be recommended.

**Rabies Vaccine** - A virus causing one of the most dangerous diseases, it is fatal in most all cases. It affects the brain and nervous system. Transmitted in saliva. It is required by state law for any pet over 4 months old.

### **Panleukopenia, Calicivirus, Chlamydia, Rhinotracheitis Vaccine**

**Panleukopenia** - A very contagious disease, it is caused by a parvovirus. It shows as vomiting, diarrhea, loss of appetite, and fever. It can lead to the loss of entire litters. It actually affects most all the systems of the body, especially the white blood cells

**Calicivirus**- A respiratory infection, it often occurs along with another viral infection. It looks very much like the other infection but pets have ulcers on the tongue. It is primarily a problem in young and debilitated pets.

**Chlamydia (Feline Pneumonitis)**-A common respiratory virus that causes sneezing, fever, loss of appetite, runny eyes and nose. It can be complicated by a bacterial infection leading to pneumonia.

**Rhinotracheitis**- Often occurring with another respiratory virus it is highly contagious. Signs include sneezing, loss of appetite, fever, and eye inflammation.

**Feline Leukemia Virus Vaccine**- A viral disease that is spread directly from one animal to another. It can present several different ways from a latent infection with no problems, to persistent gum disease, to serious cancers. The vaccine is recommended for cats that may go outside.

**Intestinal Worm Exam** – Checking for intestinal parasites. Many of these cannot be seen with the naked eye. Some parasites are potentially a human health problem.

**Heartworm Preventative** – Feline Heartworms are on an increase. There is no treatment and it is difficult to diagnose but easy to prevent.

**Flea and Tick Preventative** – Topical help control infestations that lead to other problems.

**Spay or Neuter** – After 6 months of age spay or neuter your pet to aid in preventing various forms of cancer and behavioral problems