

## **Your clinic has made the decision to switch to Continuum® core vaccines.**

To support you in educating clients about 3-year vaccination protocols with Continuum vaccines, Intervet has provided this client-friendly handout.

The handout has been designed to help explain to dog owners why your clinic has made this important change and to reinforce that 3-year vaccination protocols in no way change the need for regularly scheduled visits. The back of the handout also provides easy-to-understand information about distemper, adenovirus (hepatitis), parvovirus, and rabies.

To use the handout, simply tear off a single sheet and hand it to all dog owners who visit your clinic. You may wish to do this when these clients first arrive at the clinic so they can review the handout before meeting with the veterinarian.

We trust that you will find this to be a useful tool in keeping your clients informed about this newest standard of care for your clinic.



To request additional handouts, please contact your local distributor representative.

# Important Notice About Your Dog's Vaccinations

## what's the big news?

Your dog is vaccinated on a regular basis against distemper, adenovirus (hepatitis), parvovirus, and rabies. Our clinic has decided to switch to a product called Continuum® that lets us protect your dog against these core diseases for 3 years at a time.



## why the change?

In recent years, there has been growing concern about appropriate vaccination of pets. The American Animal Hospital Association and major universities have recommended vaccinating every 3 years for distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, and rabies. Continuum DAP and Continuum DAP-R are vaccines that have been approved by the US government for 3-year protection against these diseases. And receiving one vaccine for these diseases every 3 years can mean greater safety and comfort for your dog.

## what do I need to do?

Not a thing. Although your dog will now receive this vaccination every 3 years, there may be other vaccines that are needed annually. And keep in mind that vaccines are only one part of your dog's care. It is important that you continue with regularly scheduled visits so that we can provide the ongoing care necessary to keep your dog healthy and happy.



See reverse for important information on distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, and rabies.

# What You Should Know About Distemper, Hepatitis, Parvovirus, and Rabies

Distemper, hepatitis, parvovirus, and rabies are common, deadly diseases. Although they are usually found in puppies and young dogs, all unvaccinated dogs are at risk of getting the diseases. This is why it's important to make sure your dog is protected against them through proper vaccination.

## Distemper

Distemper is a disease that attacks the respiratory, gastrointestinal, and nervous systems. The disease is very contagious and is spread when bodily fluids such as saliva, urine, or tears from an infected dog become airborne. Symptoms of distemper include fever, runny nose and eyes, diarrhea, weight loss, and seizures. Almost half of the dogs that get distemper eventually die from the disease.

## Hepatitis

Hepatitis is a disease caused by adenovirus and can affect the liver, kidneys, eyes, and other organs. It is very contagious and is spread when healthy dogs ingest the urine, feces, or saliva of an infected dog. Symptoms range from slight fever, congestion, and temporary clouding of the eye (a condition called "blue eye") to prolonged bleeding, severe depression, and death.

## Parvovirus

Parvovirus is a serious disease that attacks the lining of the gastrointestinal tract. Dogs usually become infected when they ingest the feces of a contaminated dog. Parvovirus can survive in the environment for long periods of time and is very contagious. It can be spread through dogs' hair or feet or through contaminated shoes, cages, or other objects. The disease can cause fever and loss of appetite, as well as diarrhea and vomiting that can quickly lead to dehydration. In severe cases, dehydration can cause death within just 48 to 72 hours.

## Rabies Virus

Rabies can affect all warm-blooded animals, including humans. Rabies attacks the brain and is usually fatal. Vaccination is the key to controlling this deadly disease in dogs. Some states require a rabies vaccination every year, while others require less frequent vaccination. Please follow your veterinarian's schedule on vaccination against rabies in your dog.

Be sure to contact your veterinarian immediately if your dog is showing signs of any of these diseases.

If you have any questions, please contact your veterinarian or any of our clinic staff.



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