

# What to expect after your pet's vaccination

It is common for pets to experience some or all of the following mild side effects after receiving a vaccine, usually starting within hours of the vaccination. If these side effects last for more than a day or two, or cause your pet significant discomfort, it is important for you to contact your veterinarian:

- Discomfort and local swelling at the vaccination site
- Mild fever
- Decreased appetite and activity
- Sneezing, mild coughing, "snotty nose" or other respiratory signs may occur 2-5 days after your pet receives an intranasal vaccine

A small, firm swelling under the skin may develop at the site of a recent vaccination. It should start to disappear within a couple weeks. If it persists more than three months, gets to be 2 cm in size (about  $\frac{3}{4}$  of an inch), or seems to be getting larger after 1 month, you should have your pet evaluated by a veterinarian.

**More serious**, but less common side effects, such as allergic reactions, may occur within minutes to hours after vaccination. These reactions can be life-threatening and are medical emergencies. Seek veterinary care immediately if any of these signs develop:

- Persistent vomiting or diarrhea
- Itchy skin that may seem bumpy ("hives")
- Swelling of the muzzle and around the face, neck, or eyes
- Severe coughing or difficulty breathing
- Collapse

**IF YOUR PET HAS ANY OF THE ABOVE SERIOUS REACTIONS, PLEASE CALL YOUR LOCAL ANIMAL EMERGENCY CLINIC OR VETERINARIAN.**

- **Animal Medical Center:** 168 Main Dunstable Rd, Nashua, NH 603.880.3034
- **Rockingham Emergency Veterinary Hospital:** 3 Cobbetts Pond Rd, Windham, NH 603.870.9770
- **Veterinary Emergency Center of Manchester:** 2743 Brown Ave, Manchester NH 603.666.6677
- **Westford Veterinary Emergency:** 11 Cornerstone Square, Westford MA 978.557.6525



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