



Preventative Health Care For **Cats**



	Main Threats	Recommended Products	Earliest time given	Frequency	Common misconceptions	Reason Why
Vaccinations	Calicivirus, Herpes virus, Panleucopenia virus. +/- Leukaemia	We use 'Nobivac' vaccinations	Two single inoculations 3-4 weeks apart. 1st at 8-9 weeks and the 2nd at the age of 12 weeks	Annual boosters essential for continued protection	My cat will not get these diseases as I live in a rural area or have no direct contact with other cats	These disease are very contagious and are easily transmitted by droplet infection. Flu is especially risky for young and old cats and may become chronic. Leukaemia causes immunosuppression and often death.
Worming	Roundworm (also poses risk factors for children) tapeworm and lungworm	Advocate/Profender	6 weeks old and >0.5kg	Every 4 weeks until 6 months old Every 3-6 months, lifelong	I never see any worms so my cat must be fine!	Eggs and larval stages are microscopic and are often ingested as cats explore their environment and groom. Worms cause diarrhoea, weight loss and even death in young kittens.
Fleas	Flea infestation, flea allergic dermatitis, internal parasites, other diseases	Bravecto/Advocate	11 weeks old and 1.2kg (Bravecto) or 9 weeks and 1kg (advocate)	12 weekly (Bravecto) 4 weekly (Advocate)	I will just treat my cat if necessary	Due to central heating in our homes, fleas are a constant battle throughout the year. 33% of fleas live in the environment and just jump on your cat to suck blood leading to anaemia and blood loss whilst also transmitting other diseases. We recommend treating for prevention rather than cure.
Ticks	Tick borne diseases, fever and infections	Bravecto	11 weeks old & 1.2kg	12 weekly	I can remove the tick by pulling at it or using cigarettes or vaseline etc.	Ticks need to be rotated out using a tick remover. Pulling it will leave the head in situ and potentially cause further problems. Ticks transmit disease as they feed.
Pet Insurance	Sudden Large vet bill accumulating cost for a chronic condition and or trauma	Petplan	Sooner the better. Be aware pre-existing conditions will not be covered	Each policy usually lasts for a year	There is no point I have to pay the first £75 anyway	For the same condition you only have to pay the excess once within every insured year.
Spaying	Unwanted litters - over population, unwanted 'seasons', eliminate risk of pregnancy, womb infection and reproductive changes/cancers, shelter euthanasia	Surgical spaying	At least 5 months old	Once	I should let her have a litter first it's better for her, right?	There is no evidence to suggest that cats are happier or healthier having had a litter. Spaying your cat will reduce and in some cases eliminate the risk of certain reproductive cancers and womb or infections. Shelter euthanasia is the number one killer of companion animals.
Castration	Straying, fighting, spraying, unwanted pregnancies, shelter euthanasia	Surgical Castration	At least 5 months old	Once	Castration will change his personality and make him fat and lazy.	You cats personality is not hormone driven, but anti social behaviour often is. Weight management can be achieved by following the advice we give post operatively.
Oral Hygiene	Tooth ache and gum disease leading to spread of bacteria to other organs	CET toothpaste and toothbrush	Start brushing at day 1	Twice daily	I don't need to brush my cats teeth as fed a dry food	Feeding a dry diet will reduce plaque and tartar but will not prevent it. Aim for gold standard brushing. The combination of brushing and use of enzymatic toothpaste aids prevention
Microchipping	Lost/stolen cats unnecessarily euthanased	Tracer advance microchips	8 weeks old	One off 'injection' and charge	The chip will move and get into the bloodstream	The microchip is introduced under the skin, it may migrate slightly but will NOT enter the blood stream. A microchip permanently registers your cat to you, and unlike a collar cannot fall off or get lost.
Nutrition	Malnourishment	Royal Canin	Start at weaning	2 months old - 4 meals daily, 3 months old - 3 meals daily, 6 months old - 2 meals daily	All cat food is the same, one dietary brand is suitable for all	The variation in quality of pet food is immense. Some diets make the body work harder to extract the required nutrients even though the common analysis is the same as better diets. Cats dietary needs need to be addressed at varying lifestyles and differing lifestyles.
Weight Control	Diabetes, arthritis, heart disease, lack of vitality	Royal Canin prescription diets, designed for obesity control	Once weight increasing	Until reaches ideal weight	I will reduce the food or switch onto a light diet, that will work right?	Reducing food volume will not only cause your cat to scavenge but will also create problems like malnourishment as well as other complications. Light diets are still maintenance diets and are unlikely to achieve weight loss but should prevent weight gain.