

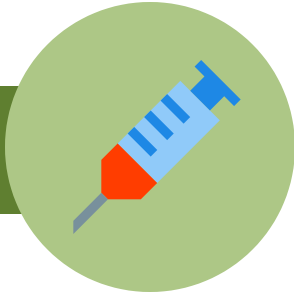
What is Preventative Veterinary Medicine?

Preventative veterinary medicine is a concept that focuses on **preventing** disease and/or **early detection** of disease. This is a **proactive** approach as opposed to a reactive approach when it comes to your pet's health (act first!).



The following topics (and more!) should be discussed in your pet's **wellness appointments**.

Vaccines



Vaccines are available for both dogs and cats to help prevent common or harmful diseases. Vaccines are very **effective** and **safe**. There are **core** vaccines (which all pets receive), as well as **non-core** vaccines which are optional. Ask your vet which vaccines your pet may require based on their lifestyle.

External parasites include fleas, ticks, mites, and more. Internal parasites include roundworms, tapeworms, hookworms, and more. Talk to your vet about **external parasite control** and an appropriate **deworming schedule**.



Parasites

Dental Care



Your pet's teeth are important for a variety of reasons, and unhealthy teeth can become painful. You can support your pet's dental health by providing VOHC-approved dental **toys**, **brushing** your pet's teeth, feeding an appropriate **diet**, and/or **avoiding** hard objects such as bones.

There are a wide variety of pet foods available. Depending on your pet's **age**, **activity level**, **breed**, as well as any **conditions** they may have, your veterinarian should be able to make recommendations regarding the best diet to support your pet's needs.



Nutrition

Disease Detection



An important goal of regular wellness exams is disease surveillance. With a thorough history and physical exam, your veterinarian is able to recommend appropriate **testing** that will help to make a diagnosis. In many cases, treating a disease in the early stages can lead to a more successful outcome.