Vaccinosis and Your Pet
By Dr. Karen Becker

Hi, this is Dr. Karen Becker. Today I want to talk about vaccinosis. I talk a lot about vaccine dangers here at the Mercola Healthy Pets site, and I often mention a condition called vaccinosis. Since vaccinosis isn’t recognized by most traditional veterinarians and isn’t something many pet owners have ever heard of before, I thought it would be helpful to do a short video to explain the condition.

First, let’s talk about what vaccinosis isn’t. Vaccinosis isn’t an acute, often immediate adverse reaction to a vaccine. Adverse events, whether mild (such as lethargy, flu-like symptoms, etc.), or severe (such as anaphylactic shock), that are clearly linked to a recent vaccination are widely acknowledged by the traditional veterinary community. Unfortunately, these reactions are considered by traditional vets to be occasional aberrations of a basically safe procedure.

What Makes Vaccines Harmful to Pets?

Vaccinosis, on the other hand, is a problem only holistic veterinarians seem willing to acknowledge. It is a reaction of a pet’s body to vaccines that have been injected repeatedly. These are chronic reactions to not only the modified live virus contained in the vaccine, but also to the chemicals, adjuvants, and other components of tissue culture cell lines -- as well as possible genetic changes -- that can be induced by vaccines.

Dr. Richard Pitcairn defines it this way: “Vaccinosis is to be understood as the disturbance of the vital force by vaccination that results in mental, emotional, and a physical change that can, in some cases, be a permanent condition.” According to Dr. Pitcairn, vaccines that are intended to protect pets against acute natural diseases actually create chronic conditions with features of the disease the vaccine was supposed to prevent.

This transformation happens in the laboratory, where natural viruses are modified in order to make vaccines. Where the natural virus would trigger a strong immune system response, the modified lab-created virus in the vaccine doesn’t elicit much of a reaction by the animal’s immune system. Instead, it creates chronic disease. The delivery of a vaccine is also very different from how a natural disease develops in an animal’s body.

Vaccines contain a number of toxic substances, including viruses, mutated bacteria, immune irritants, foreign proteins, and chemical preservatives. All of these toxins are delivered by injection directly into the blood and lymph, bypassing the usual first line of defenses of the skin, mucous membranes, saliva, and so forth. So not only is the virus in the vaccine unnatural, the way it enters a pet’s body is also very unnatural. When you look at the situation from this perspective, it’s easy to see how abnormal immune reactions are triggered by vaccinations.
The strength and balance of every animal’s immune system is different, so there’s no way to predict how much danger your pet is in from exposure to the modified virus contained in any given vaccine or the many toxic ingredients it contains. That’s why I strongly encourage pet owners to avoid all unnecessary vaccines and re-vaccinations. It’s also why I do not vaccinate any animal dealing with any type of illness.

**Vaccine Reactions in Pets**

Common vaccine reaction symptoms include lethargy, hair loss, hair color change at the injection site, fever, soreness, stiffness, a lack of appetite, conjunctivitis, sneezing, and oral ulcers. More serious reactions can cause immunosuppression, behavioral changes, vitiligo, weight loss, reduced milk production in lactating females, lameness, granulomas, and abscesses, as well as hives, facial swelling, allergic hypersensitivity, respiratory disease, and allergic uveitis.

Very severe reactions include injection-site sarcomas (which is a type of cancer), anaphylaxis, autoimmune arthritis, polyarthritis, hypertrophic osteodystrophy, autoimmune hemolytic anemia, immune-mediated thrombocytopenia, thyroiditis, glomerulonephritis, myocarditis, postvaccinal encephalitis or polyneuritis, seizures, abortion, congenital abnormalities, embryotic or fetal death, and infertility.

**Dr. Becker’s Recommendation**

Since the introduction of dog and cat vaccines, the traditional view of their use has been that they are safe and can really be given as frequently as once or twice a year. This approach, tragically, has caused a tremendous amount of suffering for millions of pets. As the truth about vaccine dangers slowly emerges, even traditional veterinary organizations and practitioners are acknowledging that vaccines are not benign, and the “better safe than sorry” veterinary tools that they were once using really aren’t that way.

My recommendations for vaccinating your pet can be found in several videos, articles, and interviews here at the Mercola Healthy Pets site. Most importantly, I don’t recommend any automatic re-vaccinations at any prescribed intervals for any pet. If you believe your pet could be suffering from the negative effects of overvaccination, I strongly recommend that you work with a homeopathic or holistic vet to create a tailor-made vaccine detox program to assist the body in recovering from vaccinosis.

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