



DAY HOLLOW ANIMAL HOSPITAL P. C.

Terry L. Hills DVM, Practice Owner, Megan L Varner DVM, Associate
Virginia P. Hills MSN, RN, Practice Manager
345 Day Hollow Road, Owego, New York 13827-5307
Phone (607) 687-1750, Fax (607) 687-3580
E-Mail: DHAH-staff@stny.rr.com, Web: www.dayhollowanimalhospital.com

POSSIBLE VACCINE REACTIONS

We would like for our clients to be aware of both common and uncommon adverse reactions to vaccinations. **Please note, however, that your pet has a greater risk of acquiring a fatal infection if not vaccinated than experiencing an adverse reaction from the vaccine.** Please let us know if your animal has ever experienced an adverse reaction to a vaccine.

Mild Reactions:

Fairly common, usually start within hours to several days after vaccine, and should last no more than a few days.

- Discomfort at the site of vaccination
- Mild fever
- Diminished appetite and/or activity level
- Sneezing at about four to seven days after an intranasal vaccine has been given (i.e. Bordetella)
- Development of a small, firm swelling under the skin at the site where vaccine was given. Swelling usually goes away after several weeks.

Serious Reactions:

SHORT TERM-

Although uncommon, a serious and potentially life-threatening hypersensitivity reaction may occur within several minutes to several hours after vaccine administration. This reaction should be addressed immediately. Call us if you witness:

- Vomiting, hypersalivation
- Diarrhea
- Facial swelling
- Difficulty breathing
- Severe itchiness
- Marked weakness

LONG TERM- In very rare instances (1 per 10,000 cats), a kind of tumor called a sarcoma may develop at an injection site within a number of months, or even longer. The definitive cause is yet unknown, but suspected to be related to certain adjuvants. Call us if you suspect this.

Adapted from Cornell University Hospital for Animals "Vaccination Reaction" handout. MLV 7/09