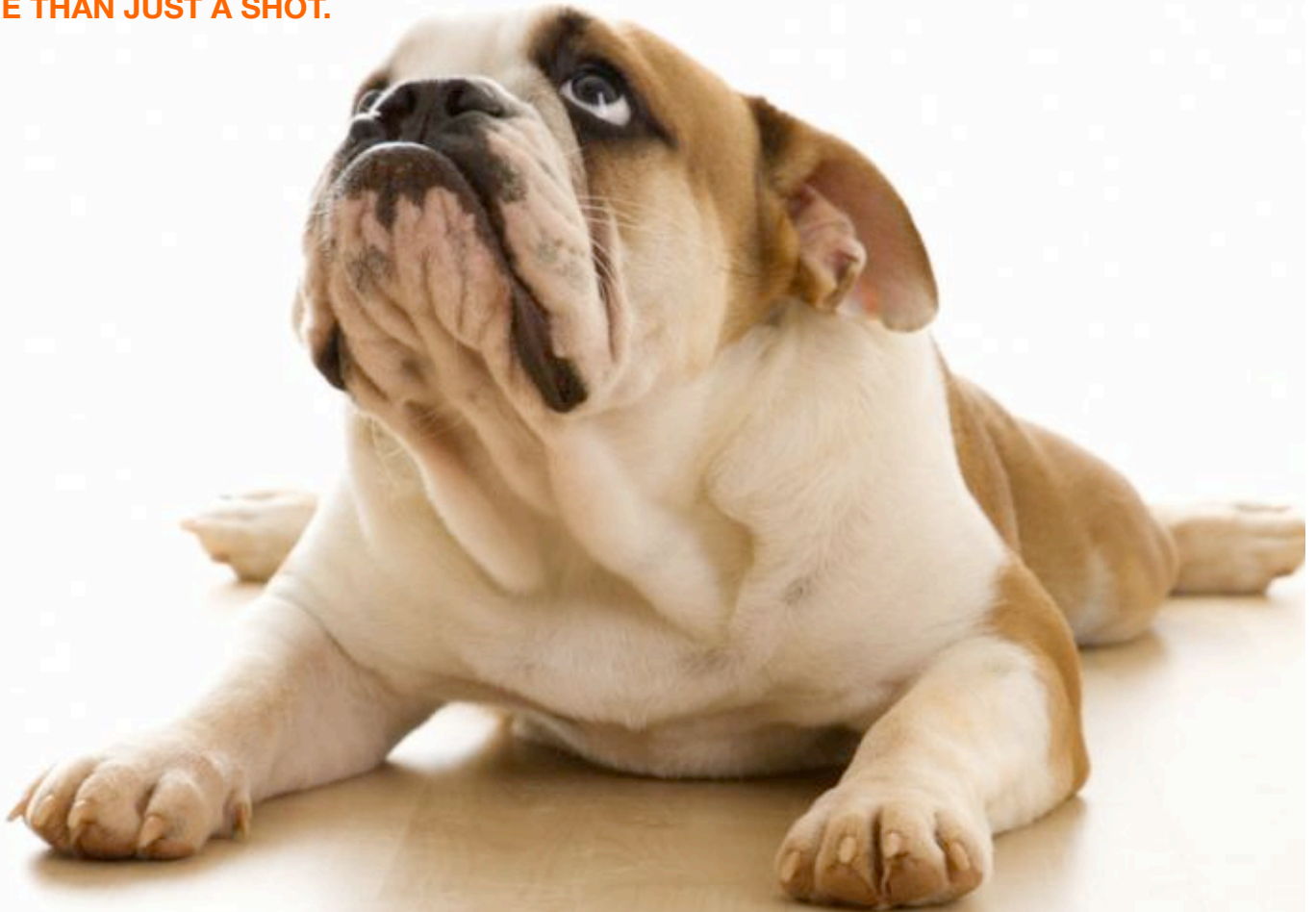


# CANINE VACCINATION

**MORE THAN JUST A SHOT.**





## Why is it important to protect your dog by vaccination?

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Unless properly vaccinated, your dog is at risk of contracting one of several, possibly fatal, infectious diseases. Distemper and Leptospirosis are the most current and widespread threats, depending on where you live. Both may prove fatal and Leptospirosis can present a serious risk to human health as well.

The routine vaccination given to puppies will also protect against hepatitis and parvovirus, both very dangerous diseases; and parainfluenza, which although rarely fatal, can cause suffering to your dog.

Vaccination against Rabies is not a routine practice here unless you plan to bring your dog abroad or whereby your dog is at risk of contracting the disease from wild animals when let roam free into the jungle.

## Why are booster vaccinations required?

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When your dog was vaccinated as a puppy it was provided with immunity to these diseases. But this immunity doesn't last indefinitely and will gradually fall, leaving your dog at risk. Your dog's immunity therefore needs "topping up" at regular intervals.

## Can a single vaccination restore protection when boosters have been allowed to lapse?

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You may remember that when your dog was a puppy, it was vaccinated twice or thrice, with an interval of 2-4 weeks between injections. These injections were required to ensure a full immune response to all fractions of the vaccine.

After this so-called "primary" vaccination, single annual boosters are sufficient to keep the animal protected. However, if the interval between the primary vaccination course and the first booster - or between two boosters in subsequent years - significantly runs over, then protection against some of the diseases may no longer be sufficient. In this case, a new primary course with two injections is required.