

## What to Expect After Vaccination

### Normal Reactions

It is common for pets to experience mild side effects after receiving a vaccine. These symptoms are considered normal since they mean the vaccine is working - your pet's immune system is being activated. These symptoms generally begin within a few hours of the vaccine and last for 1-2 days. If symptoms are severe or last more than 2 days, please contact us or a private veterinarian.

- Sensitivity and swelling at the vaccination site (usually the back leg)
- Mild fever
- Decreased appetite and activity

No treatment is needed for these symptoms after vaccination - they should improve within 1-2 days of the vaccine. Allow your pet to rest as much as needed and avoid touching the area where the vaccine was given as it may be sensitive.

A small lump may appear under the skin where the vaccine was given. It should go away within a few weeks. If it lasts for more than three weeks, or seems to be getting larger, please contact us or a private veterinarian.

### Abnormal Reactions

More serious reactions to vaccines, such as allergic reactions, can occur but are less common. Allergic reactions generally happen within minutes to hours after vaccination. These reactions can be life-threatening and are medical emergencies but are treatable.

Seek veterinary care immediately if any of these signs develop:

- Persistent vomiting or diarrhea
- Itchy skin that may seem bumpy (hives)
- Swelling of the muzzle and around the face, neck, or eyes
- Severe coughing or difficulty breathing
- Collapsing or severe weakness

If your pet is experiencing symptoms of a vaccine reaction within our open hours (Monday to Friday, 8 AM to 6 PM), please return to the clinic or contact us immediately (csa@torontohumanesociety.com or 416-392-2273 ext. 2250). We can provide treatment if our clinic is open. If the vaccine reaction occurs at the end of the day or after our clinic is closed, you will need to take your pet to an after-hours clinic for treatment.



## Emergency Clinic Reference List

This list is a reference only. Toronto Humane Society does not necessarily recommend or endorse these facilities. This is not a complete list and there may be emergency veterinary services which are not listed below.

### **Central Toronto Veterinary Emergency Clinic**

1051 Eglinton Ave West, Toronto  
416-784-4444

### **Mississauga-Oakville Veterinary Emergency Hospital (MOVEH)**

2285 Bristol Circle, Oakville  
905-829-9444

### **Veterinary Emergency and Referral Hospital of West Toronto**

755 Queensway East, #116 Mississauga  
416-239-3453

### **Toronto Veterinary Emergency Hospital (TVEH)**

21 Rolark Dr, Scarborough  
416-247-8387

### **Vaughan-Richmond Hill Veterinary Emergency Clinic**

10303 Yonge St, Richmond Hill  
905-884-1832

### **Veterinary Emergency Clinic (VEC)**

920 Yonge St Suite 117, Toronto  
416-920-2002

### **404 Veterinary Emergency and Referral Hospital**

510 Harry Walker Parkway South, Newmarket  
905-953-1933

### **Toronto Animal Health Partners Emergency and Specialty Hospital**

1 Scarsdale Road, North York  
416-380-7400

