

DISTEMPER

- What is Distemper?
 - Distemper is a viral infection that can affect several body systems including Respiratory, GI and Nervous System (last after other symptoms)
- How do they get infected?
 - The animal breathes in the virus from the exhaled moisture of an infected animal. Other wise known as Aerosol Route.
 - Tran placental Mother -> baby in utero

If pet is infected, they would be contagious for 2 weeks after exposure until 60-90 days post infection.

Distemper is also known as “hard pad” disease:

- Overgrowth of the skin on he foot pads and nose causing CNS involvement:
 - Involuntary muscle or group muscle twitching in the legs and face.
 - Slight or complete paralysis mostly in hind limbs (due to neurologic troubles)
 - Convulsions with drooling and chewing movements.

The course of distemper (if pet survives) disease is roughly 10 days. Due to the effects on CNS the pet is likely to have long-term neurologic troubles.

Vaccinations : 1st one is given 6-8 weeks of age. Followed by 3-4 week intervals of boosters until 16 weeks of age. After boosters its 1 & 3 year boosters.

