As pet owners, we are often advised to revaccinate our pets with “core vaccines” on an annual basis. However, the World Small Animal Veterinary Association (WSAVA) guidelines recommends to revaccinate “Not more often than every 3 years”.

**What is over vaccination and why may it be bad for your pet?**

Core vaccines protect our pets from serious infectious diseases, but when over vaccinated, your pet may develop side effects such as fever, allergic reactions and immune mediated diseases.

**How can we reduce over vaccination?**

Although all veterinarians agree vaccines are necessary for dogs and cats, the frequency in which core vaccines are given may exceed their necessity. The key to identifying the pet’s actual need for vaccination is in a simple titre test.

**What is titre testing?**

A titre test for core vaccines reveals if your pet is already immunised from the previous vaccination by detecting antibodies. If antibody is present in your pet’s blood, there’s no need to revaccinate.

**How vets analyse titre test results:**

Studies have shown that any measurable level of antibody for core vaccines indicates your pet is immune and doesn’t require vaccination.
Which core vaccines should my pet be titre tested for?

Dogs (Canine)  Cats (Feline)
- Hepatitis  - Panleukopenia
- Parvovirus  - Herpes
- Distemper  - Calici Virus

When should my pet be titre tested?

Puppies/Kittens
“A dedicated owner may wish to confirm that a puppy is protected after the course of primary vaccinations when these are completed at 16 weeks or older.” (WSAVA)

Adult Pets
“A titre test can be used to confirm protection at 3-yearly intervals.” (WSAVA)

How is a titre test performed?
Veterinarians can perform a quick and simple test in their clinic, VacciCheck. Canine and Feline VacciCheck are core vaccine tests that determine if a dog or cat requires additional vaccination.

Are there special groups of dogs or cats that should be tested more often with VacciCheck?
The WSAVA guidelines suggest that titre testing should be performed annually as a precautionary measure for geriatric dogs (aged 10 years and above).

TO AVOID OVER VACCINATION - ASK YOUR VET ABOUT VACCICHECK
“There are many practitioners and owners who need assurance that an animal does have immunity. An antibody test such as the VacciCheck can give them that assurance.”

- Professor Ronald Schultz

“Research has shown that vaccinating a dog that is sufficiently immune to a particular infectious agent doesn’t create an increased level of immunity.”

- Dr. Patrick Mahaney

“While some vaccines must be administered annually to sustain a reasonable level of protective immunity, others - namely the core vaccines - provide years of protective immunity in the majority of dogs/cats that are vaccinated. There is simply no medical justification that warrants administering core vaccines to all pets annually.”

- Professor Richard Ford