



Evergreen Avian & Exotic Animal Hospital

Holly G. Carter, BVetMed/James B, Boutette, DVM

12930 NE 125th Way, Suite B130, Kirkland, WA 98034

Phone: (425) 821-6165 Fax: (425) 406-6853

Email: info@evergreenae.com

Facebook: www.facebook.com/EvergreenAE

Website: www.EvergreenAE.com

Ferret Vaccination Protocol

(Note: Ferrets are 60 days old when they lose their last baby teeth (8 weeks/2 months).)

Distemper:

Marshalls vaccinates and ships at 5 weeks.

Petco is supposed to give the 2nd vaccine at 8 weeks of age.

The new owner is then supposed to vaccinate at 12 and 15 weeks.

- If we see the ferret when s/he is 5-12 weeks of age and Petco has not done the second vaccine, we need to do 3 vaccines, 3 weeks apart.
- If we see the ferret after 16 weeks of age and they have had only the initial Marshalls and no or one Petco vaccine, we need to do 2 more vaccines.
- If an adult ferret has been adopted with an unknown vaccination history, we can either do 2 distemper vaccines 2-4 weeks apart, or we can draw blood for a distemper titer.
- A booster is given a year after the "kit series". Annual boosters can then be continued, or annual titer testing can be done to monitor antibody levels.

Rabies:

- A single rabies vaccine is given after 12 weeks of age.
- An annual booster of this vaccine is required by law.
- Titer testing is available and may be appropriate for ferrets who have reacted to the vaccine or who have other health conditions that make it questionable to give the vaccine.

We do not give the distemper and rabies vaccination at the same time. We prefer for there to be a two week gap between vaccines.