

Adverse Reactions

Common vaccination side effects generally don't require treatment, and usually last 24 hours or less:

- Pain or swelling at the vaccine site
- Lethargy (tiredness)
- Reduced appetite
- Fever

More serious reactions can appear within minutes or hours after a vaccine, and may require treatment:

- Difficulty breathing
- Vomiting and/or diarrhea
- Facial swelling
- Hives or welts
- Collapse

Seek veterinary advice immediately as signs can progress and become more severe if left untreated.

Benadryl Dosing Chart

Benadryl (diphenhydramine) is available over-the-counter (without a prescription) as a 25mg tablet. The following chart is a quick guide for how much Benadryl to give a dog in the rare case of an allergic reaction after a vaccine is given. Mild reactions include itchiness, hives or other rashes that appear on the body, and mild swelling of the eyes or lips. Severe reactions include full facial swelling, increased breathing rate, vomiting or diarrhea, or collapse within 30 minutes of the vaccine. Benadryl doses can be repeated every 8-12 hours until symptoms are gone. Some severe reactions cannot be managed with Benadryl alone, and immediate emergency veterinary care is advised.

All vaccine reactions should be reported to the Sponsoring Veterinarian.

1kg = 2.2lbs

Weight		Amount of Benadryl (25mg) tablet	
Pounds (lb)	Kilograms (kg)	Mild reaction (2mg/kg)	Severe reaction (4mg/kg)
4.4	2	¼	¼
8.8	4	½	¾
13.2	6	½	1
17.6	8	¾	1 ¼
22	10	1	1 ½
33	15	1	2 ½
44	20	1 ½	3 ¼
55	25	2	4
66	30	2 ½	5
77	35	3	5 ½
88	40	3 ½	6 ½
99	45	3 ¾	7 ¼
110	50	4	8

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