



# GREYHOUND VACCINATION REQUIREMENTS FACT SHEET

## Greyhound Racing Rules require greyhounds to receive the following mandatory vaccinations:

1. Pups at 6-8 week of age are required to be vaccinated against three specific diseases; Parvovirus, Distemper and Canine Infectious Hepatitis, with a single combined ("C3") injectable vaccination.
2. From 10-16 weeks of age, pups are required to be vaccinated to a "C5" level, which is a C3 vaccine plus two Kennel Cough (KC) components - *Bordetella bronchiseptica* (BB) and Parainfluenza (Pi2).
3. If the greyhound is to be named for racing (after 12 months of age) a C5 is required.

The Kennel Cough (KC) components can be via injection, an oral vaccine or an intranasal vaccine. Research shows that the intranasal and oral vaccine can be more effective than the injectable vaccine because they act directly on the inside surface of the dog's nose and throat, which is the route of infection (see Kennel Cough Fact Sheet for more information).

- The **intranasal** (i/nasal) KC vaccine gives protection against both BB and Pi2, and only requires one dose for protection. Combined with an injectable C3 this provides C5 protection.
- The **oral** KC vaccine only gives protection against BB. Therefore, vaccination against Pi2 has to be given as a separate injection or as part of a C4 injection (Parvovirus, Distemper, Hepatitis, and Pi2) to achieve C5.

- The first time the **injectable** KC vaccine is used, it requires a booster injection approximately 4 weeks after the first. This means that the greyhound needs **two injections** to ensure full KC protection.

For Racing Rules, the C5 can be any combination. However, the injectable KC vaccine is NOT accepted for entry to GAP Victoria (see table below). In addition, from 1 January 2020 in Victoria, the *Code of Practice for the Keeping of Racing Greyhounds* (CoP) will require all greyhounds to have a 'current' C5 vaccination (as defined by the Australian Veterinary Association). The following is a vaccination schedule that, if followed, offers compliance with the racing rules, the CoP and GAP pre-entry requirements. The table provides the most effective vaccination options (including cost considerations) where appropriate:

Lifecycle stage	Vaccination
6-8 weeks of age	* C3 (injection)
10-16 weeks of age	* C5 (GRV recommends C3 + i/nasal KC)
Naming (if named)	* C5 (GRV recommends C3 + i/nasal KC)
12-16 months of age (if not named by this age)	*** C5 (GRV recommends C3 + i/nasal KC)
2 years of age	*** BB/Pi2 (GRV recommends i/nasal KC)
3 years of age	*** BB/Pi2 (GRV recommends i/nasal KC)
4 years of age	*** C5 (GRV recommends C3 + i/nasal KC)
5 years of age onwards	*** BB/Pi2 (preferably i/nasal) every 12 months + C3 every 3 years
Breeding Registration (Pink Card)	* C5 (GRV recommends C3 + i/nasal KC)
GAP (VIC) Pre-entry	** C3 + i/nasal BB/Pi2 or C4 + oral BB (C3 within the last 2½ years and BB/Pi2 within the last 6 months)

\* Mandatory vaccinations for Racing Rules

\*\* Additional mandatory vaccinations for GAP (VIC) pre-entry

\*\*\* Additional mandatory vaccinations for CoP (1 January 2020 onwards)

For more information please:

Visit <https://greyhoundcare.grv.org.au>, Call 03 8329 1100, E-mail [welfare@grv.org.au](mailto:welfare@grv.org.au).

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