

## AHVMF PRESS RELEASE

The American Holistic Veterinary Medical Foundation (AHVMF) is pleased to announce the first peer-reviewed scientific publication documenting that a half-dose of canine parvovirus (CPV) and canine distemper (CDV) vaccine adequately immunized and protected small breed adult dogs against these clinically important infectious viral diseases. Clinical experience has shown that the dose of CPV and CDV vaccines can be reduced to 50%, but not more, for small breed type dogs, and still convey the full duration of immunity. Reducing the volume of vaccine and the number of antigens given together decreases the likelihood of an adverse event.

The purpose of the study was to determine whether giving small breed dogs just a half-dose of a bivalent CPV and CDV vaccine generated a protective serum antibody titer response 1- and 6 months later in comparison to pre-vaccination titer levels. Caregivers of small breed adult dogs, weighing up to 12 pounds, and being at least 3 years and not more than 9 years of age, were recruited for the study and signed Informed Consent to participate. None of these dogs had received a vaccination for at least 3 years and all were healthy. Results showed that the half-dose vaccine generated increased serum vaccine antibody titers for all the dogs studied. A sustained increase in the median and endpoint titer levels was present in all dogs at 6 months post-vaccination. As serum antibody titer levels reflect full protection against these two virus types, the results confirmed that receiving a half-dose of bivalent DPV vaccine was effective at maintaining disease protection.

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The author wishes to thank the donors and the AHVMF for supporting this study, and the small breed dog caregivers that allowed their canine companions to participate.

**Reference:** Dodds, W Jean. Study using a half-dose canine parvovirus and distemper vaccine in small breed adult dogs. AHVMA Journal 41:12-21, Winter 2015.