

Did you know that a new rabbit vaccination is now available?

We currently recommend that rabbits are routinely vaccinated once a year with a combined vaccine to protect them against myxomatosis and rabbit viral haemorrhagic disease (RVHD). However, a new strain of rabbit viral haemorrhagic disease has recently been identified in the UK for which the current RVHD vaccination does not protect against. This new strain of the disease, known as RVHD2, can be life threatening and can lead to sudden death in rabbits of any age.

There is now a new vaccination available to provide protection from this virus. We can give this to rabbits from 10 weeks of age and they require a booster every year, (every 6 months for those at high risk) to provide maximum immunity to the virus. There needs to be at least 2 weeks between their combined annual vaccine and the new RVHD2 vaccine. The cost of the new vaccine is £30.

This disease commonly spreads by direct contact between rabbits, but can also be transferred indirectly from people, clothing, contaminated hutches, bedding and insects, such as flies and fleas. As well as vaccination, we advise keeping your rabbit's hutch, living areas and food and water bowls clean and disinfected regularly.

Please give us a call on 01285 861090 or send an email to cotswoldvets@hotmail.com if you are interested in this new vaccination for your rabbit. We would also be happy to answer any questions or concerns you may have about the disease and vaccine.

For the most up to date information, please visit www.rabbitwelfare.co.uk

Kind regards,

The Team at Cotswold Vets