

## Vaccinating your Rabbit

Rabbits can (and should) be vaccinated, there are a number of highly infectious diseases which can affect your rabbit. It is important to prevent your rabbit from becoming ill from infection. Vaccination stimulates the body's own defence system to create protective antibodies in the blood. This protection is called immunity. By vaccinating your rabbit at a young age, we can provide them with the immunity they need to fight infections. This requires two injections and timing of vaccination will depend on the age of your rabbit.

### Diseases your rabbit may be vaccinated against:

#### **Myxomatosis**

This disease is transmitted by blood sucking insects such as fleas, ticks and lice. It is usually fatal. Direct transmission from rabbit to rabbit is possible. The disease causes puffy swelling around the eyes and genitals, although signs vary with the strain of virus involved and the species of rabbit infected.

#### **Viral Haemorrhagic Disease (VHD).**

This disease is a highly contagious disease caused by a calicivirus. Signs include loss of appetite, lethargy, fever and sudden death. Some bleeding from the nose, mouth and rectum may also be seen. Viral Haemorrhagic Disease may be spread in many ways, insects, birds and rodents play a part in the transmission of the disease by acting as indirect hosts.

**Contact Glenina Vet Clinic today on 091-752014**