

FeLV and FIV infections are serious and contagious infections that can go undetected.

#### **FeLV (Feline Leukemia Virus)**

FeLV is a potentially life-threatening infection that can lead to various conditions, including cancer and blood disorders. The virus suppresses the cat's immune system which can lead to unpredictable symptoms. While some cats can become sick soon after they are infected, many will appear healthy for long periods of time. Once infected, even cats that appear healthy can spread the virus to other cats.

#### **FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus) or "Cat AIDS"**

As with HIV, FIV weakens the cat's immune system and, in some cases, will make it more difficult for infected cats to fight off other types of infections. Sometimes infected cats live for many years without showing symptoms. However, all cats infected with the virus have the potential to develop severe symptoms as a result of their weakened immunity. Ultimately, complications from infection can be fatal. While FIV and HIV viruses are similar, it is important to know that the FIV infection affects only cats. People and FIV positive cats can safely live together.

▶ **Talk to your veterinarian today** to see if your cat could be at risk for Feline Leukemia Virus (FeLV) or Feline Immunodeficiency Virus (FIV).



IS YOUR  
CAT HIDING  
SOMETHING?

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## Could your cat or kitten be at risk?

Remember, cats are not able to tell us when they are having a bad day, and they do not always send clear signals even when sick. If you notice any changes in activity, food intake, sleeping habits or vocalization be sure to check with your veterinarian as any of these can be warnings of serious underlying disease.

**Ask your veterinarian today for more information and to learn about FeLV and FIV.**

## Early detection is essential.

Cats infected with FeLV or FIV may live for many years. Prompt and adequate management of cats with positive test results may help provide them with longer and healthier lives. Knowledge of a cat's infection status may also help prevent the spread of infection between cats.

### Detection

Because FeLV-FIV infected cats may appear healthy, screening tests are an effective way to detect hidden infections.

A reliable detection test:

- can be performed in this veterinary clinic
- requires only a few drops of blood
- provides results in a few minutes

### Prevention

Simple preventative measures include knowledge of the status of your cat and segregating positive cats from other cats in the home. Vaccination is another option to help prevent your cat from becoming infected.

## Your cat could be at risk or sick and you may not know it.

All kittens and newly-adopted cats should be tested. Additionally, your cat should be retested as recommended by your veterinarian. Some reasons for retesting include:

- A change in activity, grooming, interaction, sleeping habits, vocalization or food/water intake
- Urination outside of the litter box
- Bad breath or mouth sores
- Unexplained weight loss
- Going outdoors, even if only occasionally
- A bite wound, or abscesses
- Before adding new cats to your household

