

FELINE LEUKEMIA VIRUS (FLV) & IMMUNODEFICIENCY VIRUS (FIV) TESTING

Based on recommendations by the American Association of Feline Practitioners (AAFP)

WHEN TO TEST	REASON
<p>Sick cats regardless of age, previous test results, or vaccine history</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • These viruses can remain hidden for a long time even in cats that have previously tested negative. • These viruses are associated with more feline illness and death than any other infectious diseases. • These viruses can cause blood disorders, cancer, and immune suppression.
<p>When about to be adopted regardless of age</p> <p><i>Every kitten in a litter should be tested individually regardless of mother's test results</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • To avoid exposing other resident cats. • To know the cat/kitten's status as this may influence health care decisions. • Other cats may later join the household. • Exclusively indoor cats sometimes escape and expose other cats.
<p>30 days after the last <u>unknown</u> potential exposure to FLV</p> <p>or</p> <p>60 days after the last <u>unknown</u> potential exposure to FIV</p> <p>or</p> <p>60 days after a <u>known</u> potential exposure to either FLV or FIV, such as from a bite wound.</p> <p><i>Regardless of earlier test results.</i></p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Recent exposures may result in a state where infection has occurred but is too early to detect.
<p>Annual testing is recommended for cats that spend time any unsupervised time outdoors</p> <p>and</p> <p>Annual testing is recommended for healthy cats residing with infected cats</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All of the above reasons. • Because unknown exposures may occur.
<p>Any time infection status is unknown</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • FLV and FIV-infected cats may remain asymptomatic for years during which time they may serve as a source of infection to other cats in their environment.