

What greater gift than the love of a cat?

CHARLES DICKENS



*This post is sponsored by Cat's Prides!

Is there a treatment or cure?

Prognosis is poor and usually a diagnosis means little to no time left.

Treatment is palliative and despite many articles there is no cure or treatment available currently

For wet FIP prednisolone helps with inflammation and stimulates appetite.

Feline Omega Interferon has shown some promise

For dry FIP, the "off-label" usage of Polyprenyl Immunostimulant (PI) has led to a number of long term (over 1 year) survivors



Our Wall of Fame Survivors, FIP Warriors

Mays

Oliver

Zizou

Finding Support & Comfort

Your cat has FIP. The diagnosis leaves you reeling and you don't know where to turn.

You will need to have a shoulder, a place that can provide comfort, support and good advice.

Three such great places where you can find help are

- The FIP Advisory and Care Group on Facebook

<https://www.facebook.com/groups/FIPCare>

- The website www.fipcaregroup.com

- The Essential FIP SURVIVOR GUIDE www.fipsurvivorguide.com

Hope for the Future

Project Fight FIP in South Africa is a non profit concern making it easier for patients to undergo the necessary testing and subsidise the cost of PI where necessary.

For donations via PayPal:
ProjectFightFIP@gmail.com

Ongoing research into the disease is conducted by:

Dr Diane Addie - www.catvirus.com;
eradicatefcov.endfip@gmail.com

For cats with the dry form of FIP Polyprenyl Immunostimulant may help -
www.vetimmune.com

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Together we strive to End FIP



To ensure a safe future for future generations

Coming to Terms With Feline Infectious Peritonitis

FIP

Our Curiosity Is Their Only Salvation

Solving the Puzzle That is FIP

The coronavirus FCoV has two biotypes or strains; FECV which we'll call the good twin and which to all intent is just like the common cold and FIPV, our evil twin and the one that is the pathogenic form and responsible for the mutation of the virus

What exactly does FIP stand for?

FIP stands for Feline Infectious Peritonitis, an immune mediated disease that results when the coronavirus (FCoV) mutates.

Who is infected with FCoV?

80 - 90% of all cats will be infected with FCoV in a multicat household, cattery or rescue shelter. Less than 5% of these infected cats will then go on to develop FIP.

What about breed susceptibility?

Worldwide the disease seems to be more prevalent in Birman, Himalayans, Bengals, Sphynx, Devon Rex, Abyssinians and Ragdolls with a lesser degree in Persians and Orientals.

Factors that must be present for FIP?

- A compromised immune system
- Exposure to FCoV and subsequent infection
- FIP genotype (3c gene) for FIP susceptibility
- A stressor / stress factor (rehome, vaccinations, sterilization)
- Multicat households usually greater than 5 cats
- Predominantly indoor only cats

“ A Swift and Merciless Killer ”

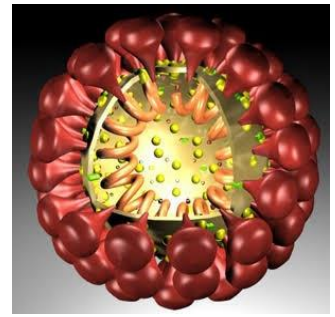
What are the two types of FIP?

There is a wet (effusive) form which results when protein rich plasma leaks into the abdominal cavity (70% of wet FIP cases) or the thoracic cavity (30%)

The second type is known as the dry (non-effusive) form and this presents as granulomas on the organs, uveitis of the eye or involvement of the central nervous system (CNS)



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FIP Advisory
& Care Group

How contagious is FIP?

FIP is **NOT** contagious; it is the FCoV virus that is.

How will I know if my cat has FIP?

Your cat will begin to show the following:

- be lethargic,
- have no appetite
- weight loss
- poor growth rate
- chronic intermittent low grade fever
- icteric (jaundiced)
- abdominal swelling

How will my vet diagnose FIP?

- Your cat begins to show some / all of the above symptoms, this is known as signalment
- Your vet will require a brief history of your cat in terms of age, breed, gender and environmental factors
- A physical examination will be done recording temperature, anemia, jaundice, body condition
- Diagnostic testing : a full blood chemistry and complete blood count or (FCoV RT-PCR on fluid)