

Facts

FIV+ CATS

FIV (Feline Immunodeficiency Virus) just reduces a cat's immune system SLOWLY. Because it is such a SLOW ACTING virus many FIV positive cats can enjoy a normal lifespan with no apparent health problems at all.

- **FIV+ does not cause clinical symptoms and no medication is need.**
- **FIV is not life threatening**
- **FIV+ cats have a weaker immune system and are more susceptible to illnesses. It may take longer time for them to recover from illness. However, with good quality food and regular monitoring, many FIV+ cats have a normal life span.**
- **FIV is not transferrable to other species like humans or dogs.**
- **FIV is NOT transmitted by prolonged close contact such as sharing food bowls or litterboxes. It is only transmitted from cats to cats through DEEP BLOOD DRAWING BITE WOUNDS, the kind that takes place outdoor during aggressive fights and territorial disputes.**
- **Casual and non- aggressive behaviour does not spread FIV. Cats in households with stable social structure are at little risk for acquiring FIV.**
- **FIV should NOT be confused with FeLV (Feline Leukaemia) - they are two very different viruses. They are often mentioned together due to the 'Snap' tests carried out by vets, but they differ greatly in how they affect a cat, and its expected lifespan. FeLV is a serious risk to a cat's health and longevity, whereas FIV is not.**