

"Good News about FIP" ---Feline Infectious Peritonitis" by Hollis Hansen

First, it's not actually **infectious!** FIP is a mutation of the corona virus which is infectious. It is believed that most cats have corona virus and it is kept under control by their immune systems. The virus mutates during periods of high stress in a cat's life and becomes FIP. When the virus is mutating, the kitten or cat will have an unexplained fever. This may occur multiple times before it becomes noticeably ill. Stress points can be separation of kittens from mom, being rescued, going to a new foster, going for spay/neuter, going to adoption, etc. It is more prevalent in kittens than adult cats. When you look at what causes stress, you can see why. Additionally, kittens have an underdeveloped immune system which is not able to fight FIP.

FIP is fatal but there is an experimental drug in the FDA approval process. It is called GS441524. In more than 90% of the cases, this drug cures FIP. Veterinarians cannot prescribe this drug and many will not even discuss its use. Most veterinarians will advise you to euthanize your kitten or cat after an FIP diagnosis. **DO NOT AGREE TO THAT!** Instead, contact us! We will talk with you about treating your kitten or cat with GS441524. Sometimes treatment should start immediately (that day) so email us ASAP at cause4pawsllocustgrove@gmail.com . If you contact FIP groups on social media, you will be told that you must use the injectible form of this drug. That is **NOT** true. We have treated 12 kittens and cats with only the oral form and they have all recovered and are cured!

The most important thing you can do is to get your kitten or cat to a veterinarian as soon as you suspect something is wrong! There are 4 types of FIP, effusive being the most common, acute, and severe. Dry, ocular, and neurologic may occur in combination.

- 1) Effusive – Fluid accumulates in the abdomen or chest creating a bulbous water balloon appearance. The kitten or cat is very lethargic, is not eating well, and may have a fever.
- 2) Dry –Lethargic, not eating, losing weight, fever
- 3) Ocular Uveitis – Inflammation inside the eye (one or both)
- 4) Neurologic -- Wobbly, drunken mobility, sometimes can't hold head up

There is excellent information online at www.sockfip.org This website shares the results of ongoing FIP research being done by Dr. Pedersen at UC Davis (University of California). He is conducting a clinical trial of GS-441524. **FIP need not be a death sentence!!!**

Happy Tails



Cashew

Peanut & Cashew have been with C4P since they were bottle babies. Rescued from a drainage ditch, their eyes were already damaged.

Our foster, Marcia, had them for 18 months. A 90 yr old man adopted them, with the understanding C4P would take them back when needed... Marcia has now adopted them. They remembered her and her family immediately.

Marcia claims, Peanut started to contact her in her dreams several weeks before the adopter was taken to assisted-living.



Peanut