

FIV+ Cats are Pawsitively Adoptable!



FIV is a widely misunderstood condition. Many people think that it's easily spread, makes cats very sick, and that they have a lower life expectancy, so they are often overlooked for adoption. This is far from the truth!

What is FIV?

FIV stands for feline immunodeficiency virus. This virus compromises a cat's immune system, meaning it's easier for them to get sick and harder for them to fight off illness. It only affects cats (it can't be spread to people, dogs, or other types of pets).

How do cats get FIV?

FIV is spread through deep, penetrating bite wounds inflicted during serious fighting. It is not spread through casual contact such as shared food/water/litter, mutual grooming, or playing. Kittens may test positive due to maternal antibodies (rather than infection), but they will almost certainly test negative after 6 months of age.

Most FIV+ cats live long and healthy lives.

Can FIV+ cats live with negative cats?

Yes! As long as the cats get along and don't fight, there is very little risk of transmission. Spaying or neutering decreases the risk of fighting, and introducing cats slowly helps them get along.

How long do FIV+ cats live?

Studies show that most FIV+ cats live normal lifespans and remain healthy. This doesn't mean they will never get sick, but with proper care, chances of illness are greatly reduced. Oral issues are the most common, but not all FIV+ cats experience them.

Do FIV+ cats require special care?

They have the same basic needs as any other cat: high quality nutrition, a clean, stress-free, strictly indoor environment, regular veterinary visits (two times per year to monitor for illness), and lots of love.

Please consider opening up your heart and home to an FIV+ cat!