

*Friendly service and professional care for all.* 

## <u>Testing and vaccination for Feline Immunodeficiency Virus</u> (Feline AIDS)

Well done on your decision to protect your cat against Feline AIDS!

Here you will find some information so you understand the plan for your cat going forward:

Today we will collect a small blood sample and run a test here to see if your cat might be infected with FIV.

• If the test is **negative**, we will begin the course of 3 vaccinations to protect your cat against FIV.

Your cat's next injection will be in 2 weeks time and then 2 weeks after that.

• To maintain the protection, **once a year** we will give a booster injection with the other core vaccines.

There is a small chance that your cat may have been infected with FIV in the last few months and that **won't show up** on today's test (it takes time for the body to respond to the virus). To be sure that your cat is not infected, we need to **repeat the blood test** in 6 months (or at your cat's yearly health check and vaccination). This blood test costs approximately \$95.

The test we use in the clinic is looking for your cat's **response to the FIV virus**. If this test comes up **positive**, we send the sample to a laboratory to test for the virus itself. If this is **positive**, your cat is **definitely infected** and we will be in touch to discuss how best to manage your cat to keep them as happy and healthy as possible for as long as possible. At this stage, the lab does not charge for the confirmation test.

Please let any of our team know if you have any questions at all!