

LEARN ABOUT PANLEUKOPENIA

Feline panleukopenia virus (FPV) causes vomiting, diarrhea, and can cause sudden death in cats. The virus is transmitted primarily by the fecal-oral route (including through exposure to objects/clothing/hands contaminated with virus from feces).




FPV is durable and can persist in the environment for months or even years unless inactivated by an effective disinfectant. The incubation period of FPV is generally less than 14 days, and cats may shed infectious virus for two to three days before clinical signs are observed. Kittens are at highest risk for this disease, and adult cats with current vaccinations are at very low risk.



CLINICAL SIGNS OF FPV

Subclinical infection IS possible where few signs are able to be noted.

-  **Vomiting**
-  **Diarrhea**
-  **Lethargy**

-  **High Fever**
-  **Dehydration**
-  **Sudden Death**

*Diarrhea in an otherwise bright, alert, eating, drinking cat is more likely due to diet change, stress, or parasites.
** Loss of appetite is a common sign. Often kittens will turn nose up at any food or start gagging.

DISEASE TRANSMISSION

- Panleukopenia is mainly spread through exposure to contaminated feces
- Body fluids and secretions are also capable of transmitting virus
- Contact with fomites (contaminated objects). Common fomites include hands, instruments, clothing, food and water dishes, toys and bedding
- Viral particles can remain on the hair coat (even if they don't become ill) and serve as a means of transmission long after the cat/kitten has recovered from clinical disease



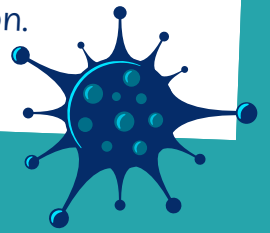
PROPER SANITATION

Proper sanitation involves thorough cleaning before disinfecting – cleaning and disinfecting are not the same thing. Cleaning does not kill pathogens, but mechanically removes them or reduces their presence. Disinfecting is the second step that inactivates the pathogens that were not removed in the cleaning process



DISEASE TRANSMISSION CONT.

- Viral particles can remain viable in the environment for months to years
- The incubation period, or period between contact with the virus and the appearance of symptoms varies, is approximately 5-7 days
- FPV begins shedding in the feces three to four days after initial infection, which is generally before clinical signs of illness are apparent.
- Viral particles will continue to be shed approximately 14 days after the first signs of infection.



ALWAYS DISINFECT

DO NOT MIX DISINFECTANTS UNDER ANY CIRCUMSTANCES! (Non-Splash bleach does not disinfect)

o **Bleach (1:32 water dilution)**, organic matter (i.e. dirt, grass, feces, food particles) will inactivate bleach, so kennels should be scrubbed with detergent before bleaching

o **Accel (1:16 water dilution)** is parvocidal, heavily soiled kennels should still be cleaned prior to using Accel

As with any disinfectant, the manufacturer's instructions should be followed for dilution, for application and required contact time, to ensure proper disinfection

