Policies and Procedures

FeLV Post Adoption Treatment Coverage

Adopting a FeLV+ Cat From Austin Pets Alive!
If you are interested in adopting a FeLV+ cat from Austin Pets Alive!, please know that they come with waived adoption fees and that the APA! medical clinic will provide complimentary treatment related to their FeLV status and in line with palliative care policies. In the category of palliative care, heroic measures such as hospitalization, advanced imaging, specialist referrals, and invasive surgery would not be pursued. Minimal laboratory or other diagnostic tests may be warranted. Pain medication, supplements, prescription diets, or other medications to treat chronic conditions would be utilized. The focus for these patients is on quality of life.

What Medical Care Is Provided by APA! Post Adoption?
The APA! medical clinic will see patients for the following FeLV related illnesses post adoption:

- Dehydration
- Fever
- Yellow or green nasal or eye discharge
- Respiratory issues including upper respiratory infections, labored breathing, or congestion
- Inappetence/anorexia - if you suspect your cat has not eaten in 24 hours, offer different kinds of wet food (start with the smelliest), chicken or turkey baby food (without onions or garlic), or even scrambled eggs. Contact APA! if your cat is still not eating after 48 hours as it can be dangerous for their health. Three or more days could be too long!
- Lethargy - if your usually energetic and outgoing kitty is suddenly withdrawn and unwilling to play, it could be an indicator that something is wrong!
- Lymphoma or other cancers
- Anemia

Please contact the APA! medical clinic via email at medtechs@austinpetsalive.org or by phone at 512-466-0720 if you notice any of these issues with your feline leukemia positive cat. APA! will not reimburse medical expenses for the above items if you opt to go to a private vet for medical care instead of the APA! medical clinic.

What Medical Care Would I Need to See a Private Vet For?
APA! will not treat adopted FeLV cats for the following post adoption:

- Vaccines, flea preventatives, deworming, or other routine care
- Dental or gum disease
- Traumatic injuries such as broken bones, soft tissue injuries, lameness
- Diarrhea or other non-cancerous GI conditions such as IBD, or food allergies, or foreign bodies in the GI tract
- Skin conditions
- Ear infections
- Urinary tract infections/Urinary blockages
- Skin masses
- Constipation
- General age maladies such as arthritis, kidney disease, diabetes, heart disease

Please see a private vet for any of the above medical concerns.
Are There Any Local Veterinarians Familiar With FeLV?
Yes! The following are a few local veterinarians who have experience treating cats with feline leukemia:

- **Corner Vet**  
  2400 E Cesar Chavez Austin, TX 78702  
  (512) 236-8000

- **Lake Austin Blvd Animal Hospital**  
  2301 Lake Austin Blvd, Austin, TX 78703  
  (512) 474-8888

- **Riverside Veterinary Clinic**  
  2400 E. Oltorf Austin, TX 78741  
  512-444-3111

- **South Austin Cat Hospital**  
  11215 S. IH-35 #109 Austin, TX 78747  
  512-910-2287