Panleukopenia Toolkit

**Topic Overview**

What is Panleukopenia? Panleuk is a virus that is transmittable through fluids and feces. Panleuk can live and be transmitted on almost all surfaces. The incubation period is 3-5 days but can incubate as long as 14 days. Panleuk is made worse when other viruses are present (URI).

Why is there an outbreak? Because Panleuk is spread on all surfaces it is very difficult to eradicate. Microscopic particles of the virus can live on anything and it can live in the environment for a year if not cleaned with a parvocidal cleaner or on a surface that is uncleanable (dirt), making the virus highly transmittable.

Vaccinate all cats on intake: Panleuk mostly unvaccinated or under-vaccinated cats. Properly vaccinating cats and kittens on intake can help prevent transmission of the virus throughout your shelter.

When does it affect kittens and cats? Panleuk affects unvaccinated cats and kittens. Kittens are most susceptible between the ages of 3-12 weeks of age when their mother’s antibodies are still “interfering” with the vaccine and they are either too young to be vaccinated or recently vaccinated.

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**Austin Pets Alive! Related Resources**

- **Austin Pets Alive! Common Contagious Illness and Disease in the Shelter**: High-level information all of your medical staff should know, includes important info on Panleuk
- **Austin Pets Alive! Panleuk Protocols and Medications**: For testing, medication and feeding and care
- **Austin Pets Alive! Panleuk Watch Monitoring Sheet**: To help you monitor the health and well-being of cats on watch for Panleuk
- **Neonatal Kittens and Panleuk**:
  - **Austin Pets Alive! Neonatal Health and Medical Overview**: Overview information about neonatal kittens and Panleuk
  - **Austin Pets Alive! Panleuk Policies and Procedures**: Proper handling for neonatal kittens with Panleukopenia
  - **Austin Pets Alive! Nursery Panleuk Medication Protocol**: Medication protocol for neonatal kittens
- **Foster care and panleuk**:
  - **Austin Pets Alive! Panleuk FAQ for Fosters**: To provide foster caregivers with the information they need about Panleuk, what it is, what to watch for, what it means for their homes, and more
  - **Austin Pets Alive! Panleuk and Calici Foster Home Exposure Policy**: What to do if a foster home is exposed to Panleuk