



PAWS *of the* **ROCKIES** ANIMAL HOSPITAL

Viral Testing and/or Vaccination Consent Form

Feline leukemia virus (FeLV) and feline immunodeficiency virus (FIV) are viruses, which affect the immune system of cats. These viruses are transmitted by direct contact with infected cats. FeLV is spread through the saliva and upper respiratory secretions of an infected cat and can be spread by grooming, sharing food or water dishes and cat fights. Infected mother cats may transfer this virus to kittens. FIV is typically spread when an infected cat bites another cat. Cats affected by either of these diseases have immune suppression and are susceptible to infections and severe illness. There is no cure for either of these diseases, but preventative measures can ensure your cat's good health. A highly effective vaccine is available for FeLV. Although there is a vaccine available for FIV, incomplete effectiveness does not warrant its use. The best prevention is eliminating exposure by keeping your cat indoors at all times. The doctors at Paws of the Rockies Animal Hospital recommend annual viral testing and/or FeLV vaccines if your cat:

- Has never been tested before.
- Is newly adopted, even if they are not entering a household with other cats.
- Goes outdoors unsupervised.
- Has any symptom of illness consistent with FeLV or FIV infection.
- Receives the FeLV vaccine.

You will be asked to please choose from one of the following options:

- Viral testing today.
- Viral testing and vaccination.
- Decline viral testing and understand the risk if your cat is exposed to these viruses.