



## Vetimmune's Polyprenyl Immunostimulant™

It's long been established that the immune system differentiates healthy FCoV-positive cats from unfortunate cats who develop FIP.

*"It is now apparent that most healthy cats have a strong natural and acquired immunity to FIP viruses." -N. Pedersen, Nov 2022.*

We know a cat develops FIP due to an aberrant immune system response to the otherwise benign, transient Feline Coronavirus.

We know a robust immune system is the first and best line of defense against all pathogens, not just FIP, but other viruses, bacteria, and parasites.

**Think of your cat's immune system as a shield.**

When your cat is exposed to a pathogen, the innate immune system switches on first, and the adaptive immune system follows suit. The innate immune system is a nonspecific defense mechanism that a host uses immediately after exposure to almost any microbe or virus. This is the immunity cats have in their genes and is the initial response by the body to eliminate pathogens and prevent infection.

**Your cat's innate immunity is its first line of defense - the first responder.**

Adaptive (acquired) immunity involves antigen-specific responses (defense mechanisms), which are highly adapted to the specific pathogen and closely regulated by crosstalk between immune cells. The antigen-specific defense mechanisms take much longer than innate immunity to become protective and are designed to react with and remove a specific antigen. This is the immunity that develops throughout life. **Adaptive immunity is your second responder.**

When *innate immunity* fails to respond adequately, **the shield is cracked**. *Adaptive immunity* cannot mount the antigen-specific defense against the virus, and now **the shield is broken**.



When it comes to your cat's health, everything begins and ends with immunity.

The word *immunity* creates much confusion. For immunologists, it means the immune system has responded to a pathogen. For everyone else, it incorrectly implies that they are *immune* from infection.

Antivirals for FIP have been a lifesaver. The success rate of legal antiviral treatment is estimated at 95% or more for all types of FIP. It is nothing short of a miracle. But it does not change two simple facts:

- One, your cat developed FIP because of a compromised immune system;
- Two, antivirals eliminate your cat's current FIP infection, but they do nothing to restore the immune system. Your cat is not "cured" of FIP for life. There is no guaranteed immunity from future FCoV reinfection. Your cat's protective shield - the immune system - has not magically been repaired by 84 days of antivirals.

So, what can you do to restore your cat to strong, lasting health? The answer is simple: rebuild their immune system. But how can you achieve that? With targeted, cat-specific immunotherapy.

In the years before antivirals, not all FIP cats died. Instead, many survived for months or years by managing FIP as a chronic condition with the help of Polyprenyl Immunostimulant™ (PI).

PI is a feline-specific veterinary biologic, USDA-approved and regulated immunomodulator.

Pairing up PI with antivirals is a match made in heaven - each does what the other cannot. Together, they can ensure that your cat not only survives 84 days of FIP treatment but has the opportunity to thrive for years to come.

### **How PI works**

Polyprenyl Immunostimulant™ belongs to the class of signaling molecules (which alerts immunity cells to recognize and respond to pathogens) and triggers innate cellular immunity through Toll-receptors, which activate defenses by different immunity cells and link adaptive immunity with innate immunity.



In plain English, it means this: remember that broken immunity shield we mentioned? **PI repairs the damaged innate immunity** (your first line of defense), which in turn **triggers the adaptive immunity** (the T-cells that determine the specificity of immune response to antigens in the body). **The shield is restored.**

### **Why would you still need PI after antiviral treatment?**

Experts in virology agree that **innate cellular immunity is central to controlling or eliminating the virus** in the body.

Oddly enough, this fact has been obfuscated from all current FIP treatment protocols. Instead, there is a dogged insistence on 84 days on antivirals only, the purported magic number to get rid of all infected macrophages - though this belief remains unproven: the lifespan of a macrophage varies from a few weeks to several months or even years.

Once the 84 days have been completed, your cat is sent to another somewhat arbitrary observation period of another 84 days. Now, why do you think that is? It is to monitor a possible relapse. Why would there be a relapse? Could it be perhaps that macrophages remain in the body? Or that, for lack of immunity, the cat gets sick again?

Taking the narrow view of eliminating infection without addressing what caused the cat to develop FIP - namely, compromised immunity - is shortchanging both the owners and the cats. It is a little like telling a skin cancer survivor that they don't need sunscreen: it's irresponsible. The damage inflicted by FIP-induced inflammation on the cat's body is still there - it lingers because it's the job of the immune system - both innate and adaptive - to take care of it.

**The health of a cat is a lifelong matter**, not just 84 + 84 days, and there are other pathogens that can make your cat ill, not just FIP. The importance of the immune system in viral infections should not be dismissed. We recommend you use PI for your FIP cat for six weeks during observation or during treatment once blood tests show FIP markers have normalized.

Polyprenyl Immunostimulant™ is distributed worldwide by VetImmune. The import of PI



into the UK is a streamlined process that takes a few minutes - DEFRA issues the import permit the same day- and the delivery is a matter of a few days.

<https://vetimmune.com/> | <https://store.vetimmune.com/international-orders/>