



WINN FELINE FOUNDATION

For the Health and Well-being of All Cats

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SUSCEPTIBILITY/RESISTANCE TO FELINE CALICIVIRUS

PROJECT STUDY: Identifying the role of allelic variations of feline junctional adhesion molecule A in susceptibility/resistance to feline calicivirus infection

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Final report summary, W14-014

Feline calicivirus (FCV) is an important respiratory pathogen of cats. This study examined the role of genetics in susceptibility or resistance to the virus. To do so, the investigator looked at the gene variation of an important gene (JAM-A) encoding a protein the virus uses in infection of a cell. This gene was examined for over 100 cats of a wide variety of breeds. Four different variations in the gene sequence were identified when all were compared.

These variations may affect the susceptibility of a cat to infection with FCV. In addition, they found that one genetic change was present in 6 of 7 cats with chronic gingivostomatitis. The investigator speculates that this genetic variant may predispose to the development of this disease. A clear association has not been established, and is under further investigation.

A manuscript is in preparation for publication submission.

Summary prepared by Melissa A. Kennedy, DVM, PhD, DACVIM © 2015

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