

I collected data from 24 people who had a total of 109 FeLV negative cats living with FeLV positive cats. When I say that a cat is vaccinated against FeLV, this implies that the cat was vaccinated within 6 weeks of being exposed. Cats who remained with FeLV cats for more than this amount of time are considered unvaccinated, even if they were later vaccinated against the virus.

Of these 109 cats, 57 were adults (over 1 yr old) and 52 were kittens (12 months and younger).

Of the 57 adults, three unvaccinated cats, one a senior, contracted FeLV.

53 adult cats did not contract FeLV; 22 of these were vaccinated against it, and 31 were not vaccinated. The 22 who were vaccinated include a 14-month-old cat who was exposed for 6 weeks prior to receiving the vaccination and remained negative.

One unvaccinated adult who was initially negative is currently testing snap+ and IFA-.

Of the 52 kittens, seven were vaccinated and 45 were not vaccinated. 12 kittens contracted FeLV, and only two of these were vaccinated against it.

Of the 40 kittens who did not contract FeLV, only five were vaccinated; the remaining 35 were not vaccinated for at least 2 months.

Two kittens who were originally FeLV+ are currently snap+ IFA-.

One kitten who snap tested FeLV+ at 4 months tested negative at 6 months despite living, unvaccinated, with another FeLV+ cat.

The percentages play out like this:

- 13.6% of unvaccinated adult cats contracted FeLV (this does not include the snap+/IFA- cat)
- 0% of vaccinated adults over 1 year of age contracted FeLV
- 22.2% of unvaccinated kittens contracted FeLV
- 28.5% of the vaccinated kittens contracted FeLV \*\* (there were an unusually small number of unvaccinated kittens, so the two who contracted the virus made this percentage higher than the unvax kittens who contracted it)

While there is never a guarantee, it seems from these results that adults (over 1 year old) who are vaccinated against FeLV have a low likelihood of contracting the virus, while kittens have a greater likelihood of contracting the virus.

I hope this helps people who worry when their cat had a few moments' contact with a FeLV cat. It really does not spread as easily as we are led to believe!