



**Palm Beach County
Public Safety Department
Animal Care and Control Division
7100 Belvedere Road, WPB, FL 33411
561-233-1200 Main Number**

Panleukopenia in Cats and Kittens

Information Sheet

- **Panleukopenia** is a highly infectious viral disease in CATS. Signs include diarrhea (sometimes bloody), vomiting, lethargy and fever, and death. It can range from mild diarrhea to fatal disease.
- Cats are infected via oronasal (mouth and nose) by exposure to infected animals or their secretions or feces, bedding, dishes, etc.
- Diarrhea in an otherwise bright, alert, eating, drinking kitten is more likely due to diet change, stress, parasites, or dietary indiscretion.
- Because it is so contagious, cats that were potentially exposed to Panleukopenia should be isolated in an easily cleaned area for 14 days to make sure they are not going to come down with it.
- Strict sanitation and disinfection is essential.
- The virus remains infectious on the premises for years unless the environment can be adequately disinfected with a household bleach solution.
- All current and future cats in the household must be vaccinated against Panleukopenia before bringing a new pet home, especially when adopting from a shelter or rescue.
- Panleukopenia is part of the vaccine series recommended for all cats and provides excellent protection. Adult cats that are current on their vaccinations are at minimal risk for this illness.
- If your kitten develops any clinical signs, contact your veterinarian immediately. Advise the veterinary office that you suspect Panleukopenia so that they can isolate your cat from others pets.