

FIP Treatment: Frequently Asked Questions

FIP treatment can now be prescribed from many pharmacies in the United States!

Are any drugs contra-indicated during treatment for FIP with GS-441524 or Molnupiravir?

At present, there are no known drug interactions with GS-441524 or Molnupiravir.

Immune-suppressive drugs, such as corticosteroids should be avoided when possible so as to prevent impairment of the immune response.

Short-term (1-5 days) corticosteroid use may be necessary in some cases to reduce inflammation and stabilize critical neurological patients. Topical corticosteroids may be necessary for cats with uveitis. Longer term corticosteroid use may be necessary if the cat has developed IMHA, or has other comorbidities requiring steroid treatment.

As a rule of thumb, avoid corticosteroids when possible, and when necessary use them for as short a time as possible. If an anti-inflammatory agent is required in cats undergoing FIP treatment, consider whether use of an NSAID could be appropriate instead.

Can a cat undergoing FIP treatment be spayed/neutered? What about other surgeries?

Spaying/neutering a cat during the latter part of FIP treatment is a relatively common practice. This may in fact be preferable to waiting until after treatment, since going into heat is stressful on the cat (and owner!) and may impair their recovery against FIP.

Provided that the cat is stable and has shown favorable response to treatment, other surgeries can be performed when necessary. Care should be taken to conduct the surgery and recovery period with the least stress possible.

Can pregnant cats safely undergo FIP treatment?

Pregnant and nursing cats with FIP can safely be treated with GS-441524. Molnupiravir should not be used in pregnant or nursing cats as it is teratogenic.

When should oral vs. injectable FIP treatment be used?

FIP cats can be successfully treated with oral GS-441524 or Molnupiravir beginning on day one of treatment. Injectable treatment is only needed in rare circumstances such as:

- Severe neurological symptoms/inability to swallow
- Severely dehydrated or critically ill cats
- Cats that cannot be safely medicated orally

If injectable medication is required, Remdesivir can be legally prescribed off-label. Typically it is only used for a few days until the cat can transition to oral treatment.

Is it safe to vaccinate a cat during treatment? What about post-treatment?

Vaccinations can be given as recommended for the cat based on environment and risk during or after FIP treatment as long as the cat is doing well clinically.

Is safe to administer flea treatment or deworm cats being treated for FIP?

There is no contraindication to routine worming or flea treatment for cats undergoing treatment with GS-441524 or Molnupiravir.

Can the Vanguard Feline FIP Vaccine be given to protect cats from FIP?

The existing vaccine for FIP is **not recommended** for use for several reasons.

First, the virus used for the vaccine is of a different serotype than what is most commonly found in the wild. It also is only effective if it is given before a kitten is exposed to the feline coronavirus (FECV), however nearly all kittens are exposed to the virus before the recommended age of vaccination.

Studies have shown that the vaccine does not reduce the incidence of clinical FIP when used in endemic catteries when given at the recommended age of 16 weeks. **In short, the existing vaccine simply is not effective in environments like catteries and shelters where FIP risk is highest.**



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