Transmission

**FeLV Transmission Principles**

- Infected cats may begin to shed virus within 30 days of exposure
- Shed in saliva
- Less commonly shed in nasal secretions, milk, urine, or feces
- Transmitted mainly via oral nasal route and less commonly via bite wounds
- Spread **horizontally** among cats that live together or fight
- Spread **vertically and horizontally** from infected queens to their kittens
- Kittens more susceptible to becoming progressively infected than adult cats

**FIV Transmission Principles**

- Infected cats may begin to shed virus within 14 days of exposure
- Shed in saliva
- Spread **horizontally** via bite wounds and FIV-infected white blood cells
- Transmission from queens to kittens is uncommon in natural infection
- Transmission between cohabitating cats is uncommon without fighting
- Sexual transmission is uncommon