

To Learn More:

**There are many web sites dedicated to VAS Education.
These are good places to start!**

<http://www.geocities.com/~kremersark/newhope.html> - created by Jeff and Coleen Kremer to honor their cat, Sylvia, this web site remains unchallenged as the most comprehensive web site available for information about Vaccine Associated Sarcoma.

The Cornell Feline Health Center is a great resource for feline health information. If you would like to learn more about the Cornell Feline Health Center, visit: <http://www.vet.cornell.edu/FHC/>

Visit the Vaccine-Associated Feline Sarcoma Task Force at:
<https://www.avma.org/About/AlliedOrganizations/Pages/vafstf.aspx>

Read the online version of the Task Force's brochure "Vaccines and Sarcomas - A Concern for Cat Owners" at
<http://www.avma.org/vafstf/ownbroch.asp>

If you have a cat with VAS, lost a cat to VAS, or have a professional interest in VAS treatment or research, please consider joining us in the Feline VAS Support Group at:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Feline_VAS_Support/

Read the Cornell FHC's brochure "Feline Vaccines: Benefits & Risks":
<http://www.vet.cornell.edu/fhc/brochures/vaccbr.html>

Visit Dr. Richard Ford's vaccination website. Dr. Ford is a leading veterinary immunologist at North Carolina State University's vet school. <http://www.dvmvac.com/>

VAScats is a site created by members of the VAS Support Group to provide basic information for folks first facing VAS with their cats:
<http://www.VAScats.org>

What is VAS/ISS? VAS stands for Vaccine Associated Sarcoma (also known as Injection Site Sarcoma). VAS is an aggressive feline cancer linked with a variety of vaccines and injections. While current treatment options have been successful in some cases, cures are very rare.

Should I stop giving my cat vaccines? No! Vaccines may save your cat's life, but not all shots are necessary for every cat. The vaccines that your cat may need will depend on your cat's age, health and environment and whether or not rabies vaccination is required by law in your community.

Which vaccines are more likely to trigger VAS? Cats are at risk for VAS/ISS simply because they are cats. But many veterinary experts believe that vaccines containing an additive called an "adjuvant" are significantly more likely to trigger this cancer. As a safer alternative, these experts recommend the use of currently available vaccines that do not contain an adjuvant.

What should I watch for? Small lumps following vaccination that disappear several weeks after a vaccination are very common. But because VAS can occur months to years after a vaccination, we recommend that you learn to take note of your cat's body as you pet him. The Cornell Feline Health Center recommends that you see your Vet immediately if any of the following occur: you feel a lump on your cat that is still there - or occurs - more than three months after a vaccination, if it's larger than the size of an olive, or if it is getting larger just one month after vaccination.

What do I do if the diagnosis is VAS? If VAS/ISS is suspected by your Vet, request a referral to an oncologist for further treatment. Before you consent to any surgery, it is extremely important that you consult a board-certified surgeon or a specialist. Also, please join the Feline VAS Support Group at:
http://groups.yahoo.com/group/Feline_VAS_Support/