



## MERIAL MUSINGS

# Your Cat Won't Get Stuck

It's not clear if cats really cringe at the sight of needles, but most of us do. Now, your cat can get vaccinated with the PUREVAX® Recombinant Leukemia vaccine.

Feline Leukemia is a devastating disease, leading to immune suppression and possibly death. This disease tends to strike youngest cats the hardest, so your veterinarian may recommend your new kitten to be tested and then vaccinated, depending on your cat's lifestyle. Those cats most at risk, and who may require the vaccine live in a multi-cat household (like mine!), particularly if new cats are coming and going all the time, or if kitty freely goes outdoors. Indoor-only cats in more stable households may not require the vaccine.

Merial recently introduced this cutting-edge vaccine. Tests demonstrated very high efficacy, or in other words, success at preventing the Feline Leukemia Virus infection. The vaccine is touted to be:

—Rapid, strong immune response and protection

—Adjuvant-free! Adjuvants are ingredients added to some types of vaccines, like a "special

sauce." It's this "special sauce" which gives them a sort of kick

the PUREVAX® Recombinant Leukemia vaccine via the same



You can now protect your cat against FeLV without needles — Photo by Stacey Leonard.

to the immune system of your pet, and makes the vaccines work better. However, some veterinary researchers have implicated adjuvants having some pretty serious side effects. While researchers continue to investigate, it's clear - if there are no adjuvants - such side effects are not an issue.

Perhaps the biggest "wow factor" of the new vaccine is the VetJet™ transdermal vaccination system, an FDA-approved medical device which delivers

transdermal technology that's been successfully used for years in human medicine for the administration of insulin and other medications.

As with all vaccinations, see your veterinary professional to determine if vaccinating your pet is a good idea.

— Scott Vande Griend DVM