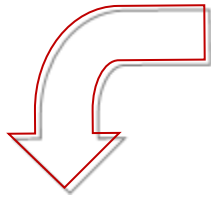


**CORONAVIRUS FELINI**  
**E**  
**PERITONITE INFETTIVA**

# PERITONITE INFETTIVA FELINA

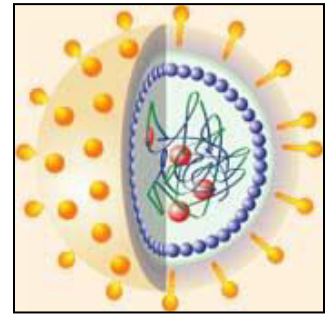
MALATTIA PROGRESSIVA SISTEMICA



FIPV



**FCoV VIRULENTO**



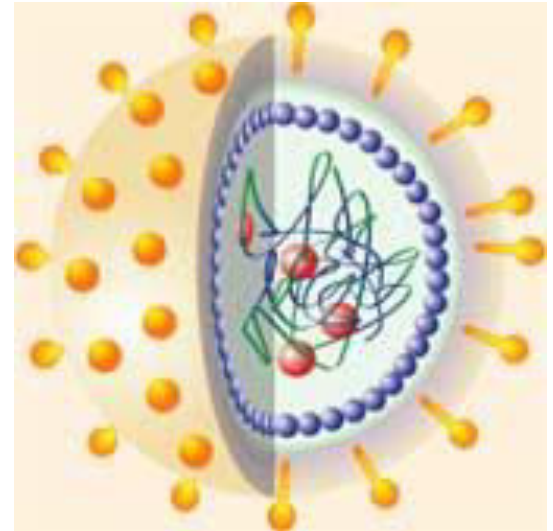
*ESITO LETALE*  
**ESITO LETALE**

- **VERSAMENTI IN CAVITÀ SIEROSE**
- **LESIONI PIOGRANULAMOTOSE DIFFUSE**

# FCoV

Famiglia: *Coronaviridae*

RNA/1+ (27-32kb), envelope



**Sensibile disinfettanti ma sopravvive per 7 sett in ambiente secco**



**Trasmissione diretta e indiretta**

# GENOMA FCoV

29.000 nt – 11 ORFs



**ORF 1 a/ 1 b**

**REPLICASI VIRALE**

**3' END ORFs**

**PROTEINE STRUTTURALI  
E NON STRUTTURALI**

The first two-thirds of the genome consists of two partially overlapping ORFs, ORF1a and ORF1b. These ORFs are translated into a polyprotein which is the precursor both of the viral RNA-dependent RNA polymerase and of proteases.

The one-third in the 3' end of the genome contains ORFs encoding for the major structural proteins, spike (**S**), envelope (**E**), membrane (**M**) and nucleocapsid (**N**) proteins. These ORFs are interspersed with several ORFs encoding for different non-structural proteins, most of which are of unknown function

# PROTEINE VIRALI

**PROTEINA S**  
(1451-1454 aa)

*N-terminus*

**RECETTORI (f-APN)**

*C-terminus*

**ATTIVITÀ FUSOGENA**

**Abs NEUTRALIZZANTI?**

**PROTEINA M**  
(262-264 aa)

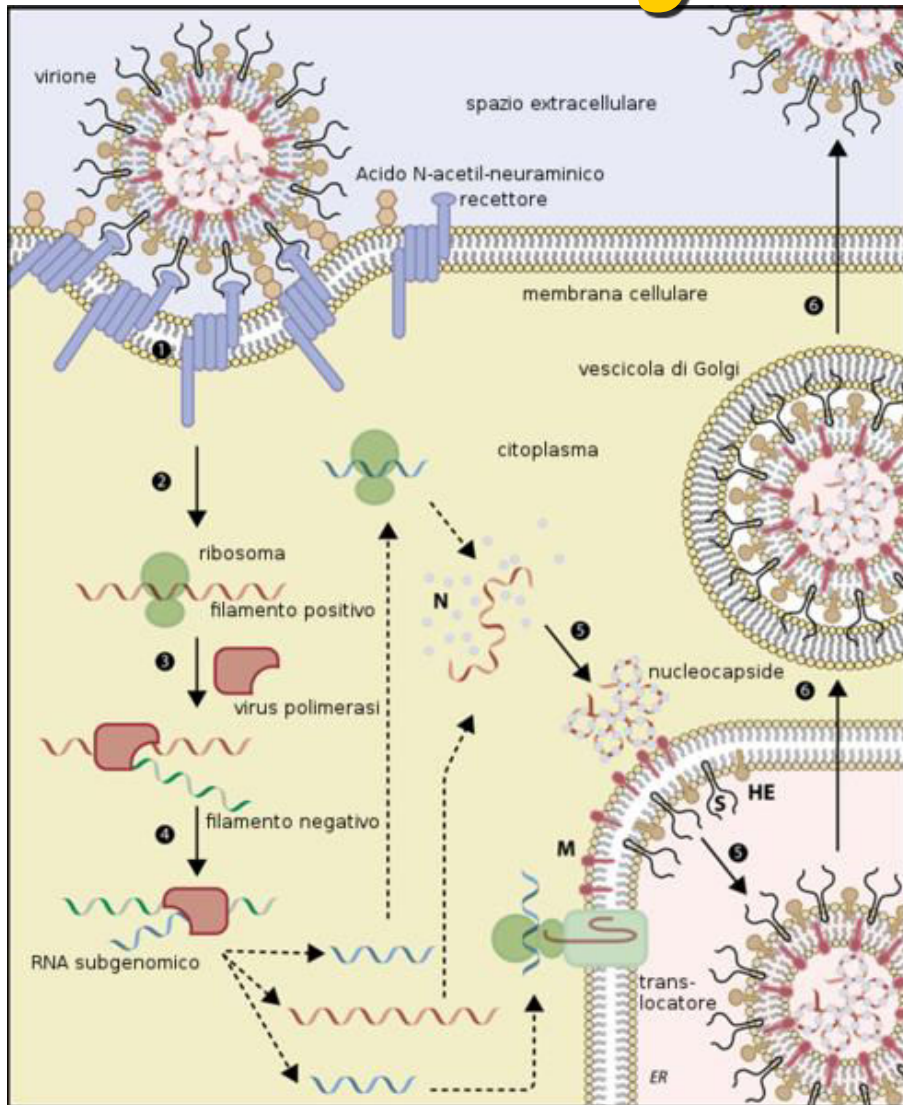
**PROTEINA DI MEMBRANA**

**PROTEINA N**  
(381-382 aa)

**ASSOCIATA A RNA VIRALE**

# REPLICATION

## *Nested sub-genomic mRNA strategy*



Error rate: 1/10.000 nt

Large RNA encodes ns protein  
to minimize errors

RNA is relatively stable in absence  
of host and environmental selection  
pressures

Phillips et al., 2013

# CORONAVIRUS FELINI

## FCoV

2 GENOTIPI

FCoV I  
FCoV II

### *FCoV tipo I*

Predominante in Europa e America

70-90% INFEZIONI

DIFFICILE ISOLAMENTO *IN VITRO*

### *FCoV tipo II*

Predominante in Asia

Ricombinazione tra  
FCoV tipo I e CCoV

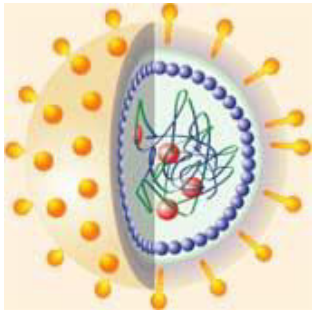
10-30% INFEZIONI

FACILE ISOLAMENTO *IN VITRO*

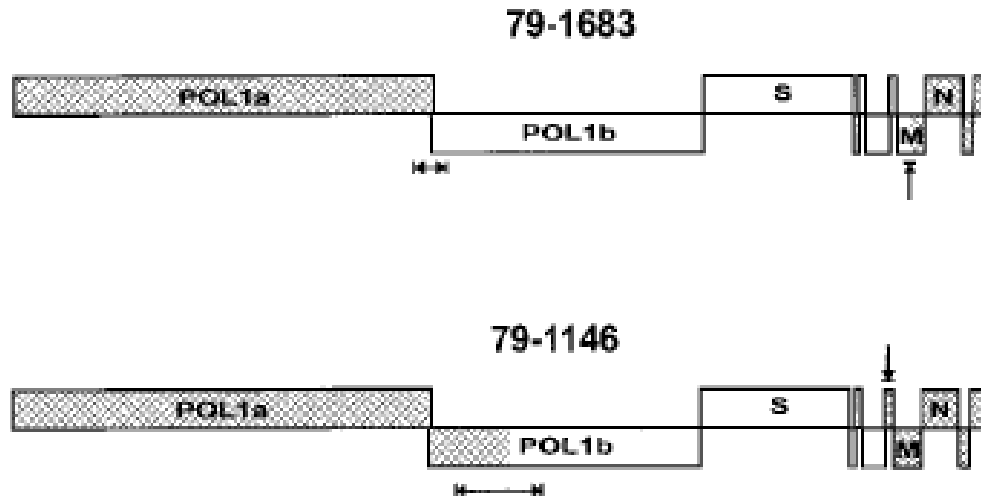
# CORONAVIRUS FELINI

***FCoV tipo II*** →

**RICOMBINAZIONE TRA  
FCoV TIPO I E CCoV tipo II**



**ORF1b e geni S, 3a, 3b, 3c, E  
di CCoV**





# CORONAVIRUS FELINI e CANINI

...PRIMA DEL 2003

***FCoV***

**2 GENOTIPI**

***FCoV I***  
***FCoV II***

***CCoV***

**1 GENOTIPO**

**CLASSICI CCoV**

**CORRELATI A FCoV TIPO II**

# CORONAVIRUS DEL CANE

...DOPO IL 2003

★  
**2 GENOTIPI CCoV**  
★

**CLASSICI CCoV**

**CORRELATA FCoV II**

**NUOVI CCoV**

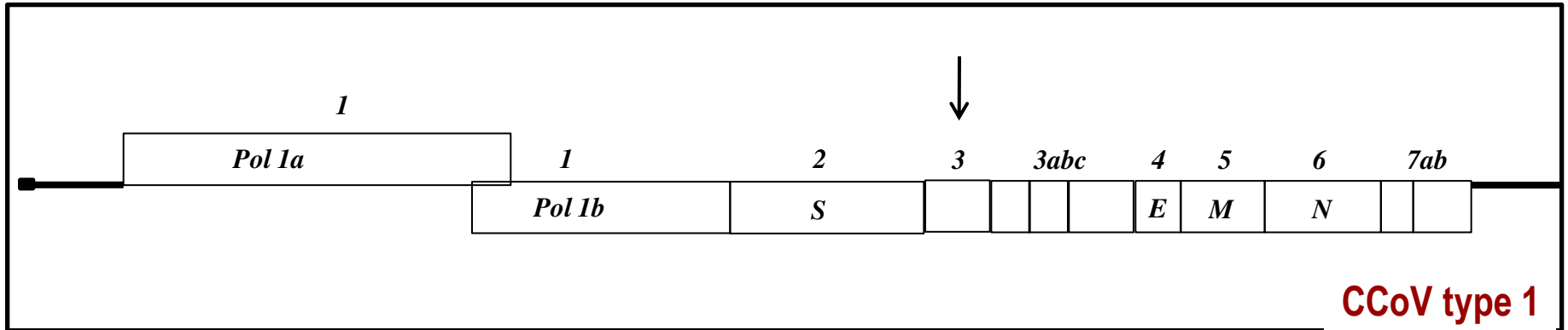
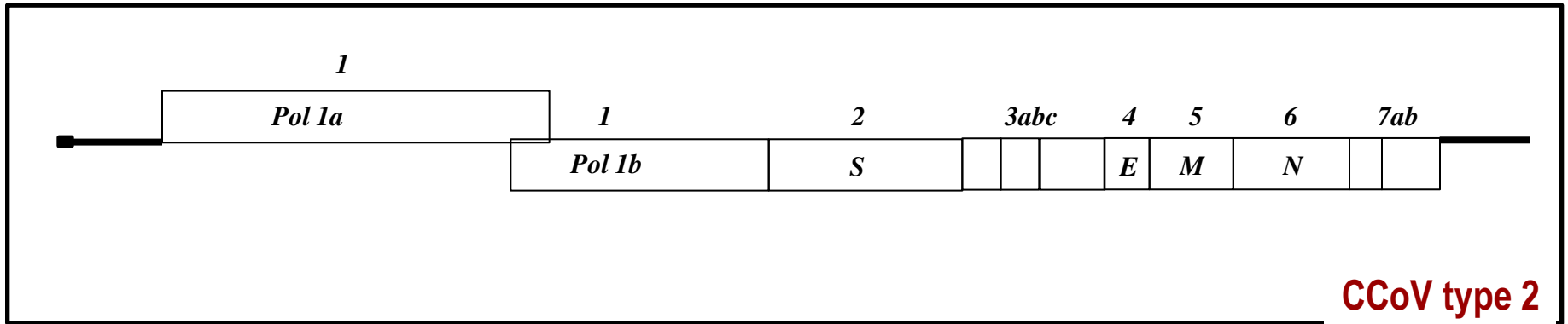
**CORRELATA FCoV I**



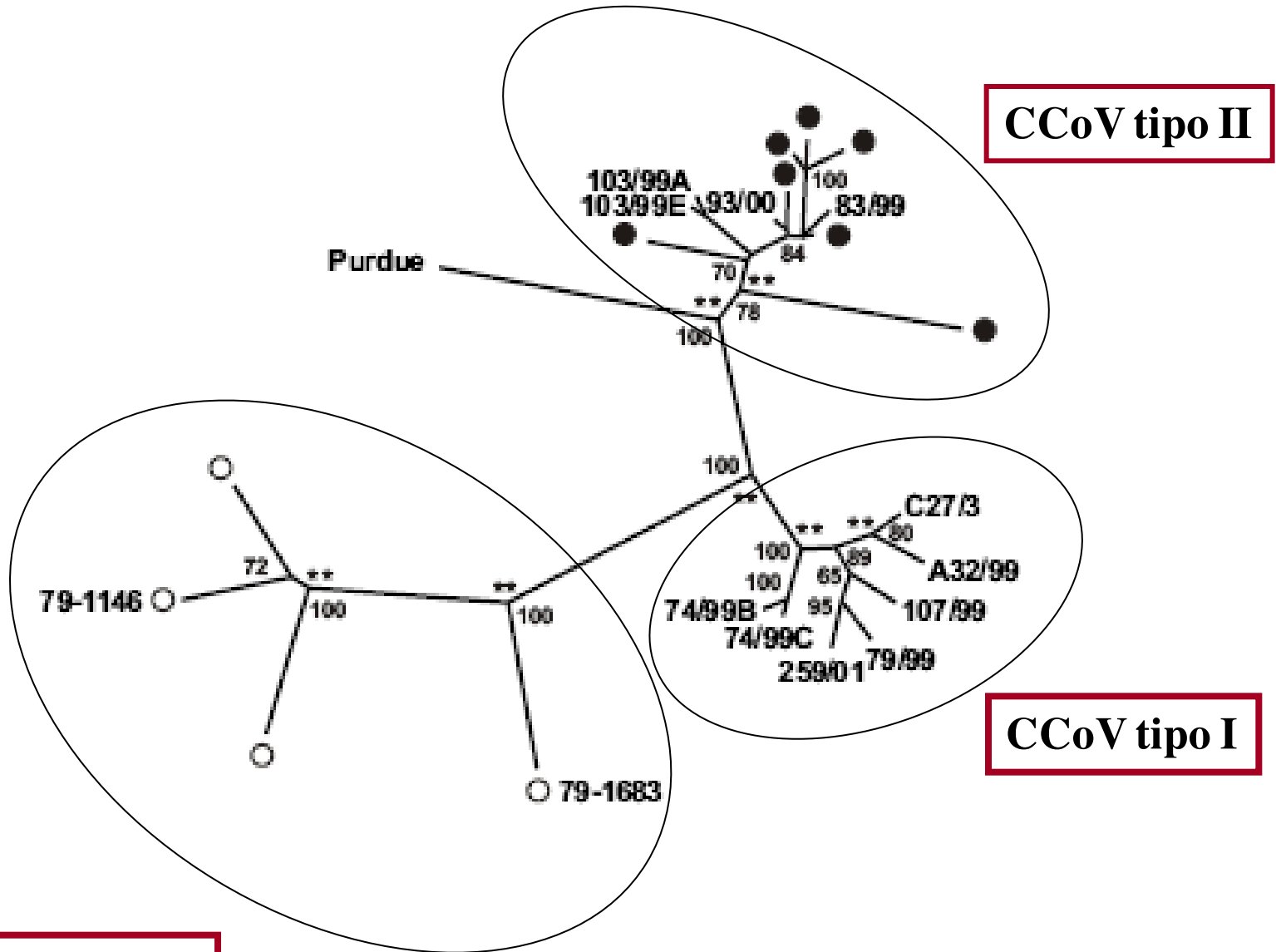
***CCoV tipo II***

***CCoV tipo I***

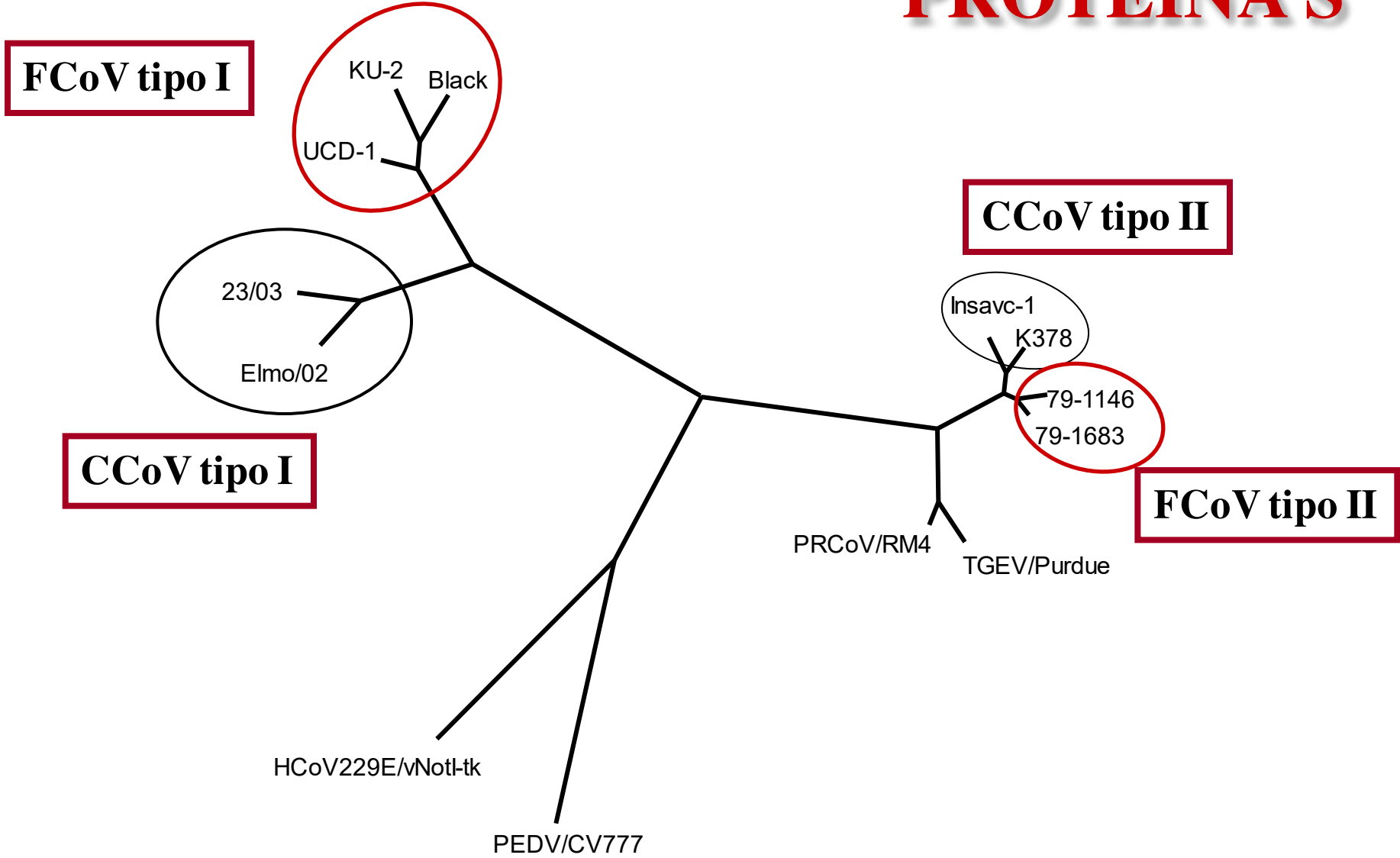
# EZIOLOGIA



# PROTEINA M

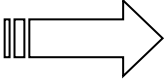


# PROTEINAS

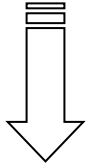


10 substitutions/100 residues

# ***FELINE CORONAVIRUSES***

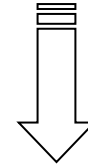
**FCoV**  **2 BIOTYPES**

**ENTERIC (FECV)**



**MILD ENTERITIS**

**VIRULENT (FIPV)**



**INFECTIOUS PERITONITIS**

**Since all FCoVs may induce systemic infection:  
these terms «biotypes» should be avoid**

# CORONAVIRUS FELINI

## ***FECV***

***TROPISMO ENTERICO***

Bassi titoli virali nel sangue!

- SCARSO POTERE PATOGENO
- INFEZIONE PERSISTENTE (mesi)

## ***FIPV***

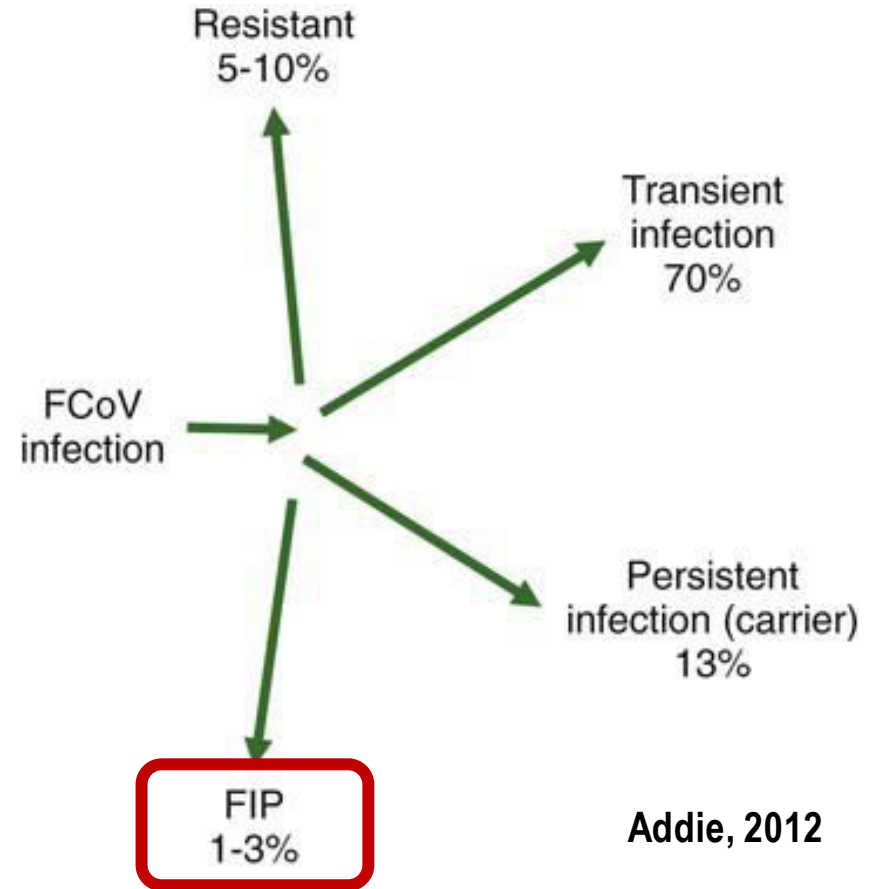
***TROPISMO  
MONOCITI/MACROFAGI***

- ALTAMENTE PATOGENO
- DIFFUSIONE SISTEMICA
- MALATTIA  **FIP**

**5-10% CASI**

# EPIDEMIOLOGIA

## FECV SI TRASMETTE MEDIANTE LE FECI



**Feci: principale fonte infezione**

**Escrezione da 1 sett p.i. per mesi  
(lifelong: carriers)**

**Rara la trasmissione da gatti con FIP**



## **FECV → ubiquitario**

**5-10% gatti FECV/+ sviluppano FIP**


### **Fattori predisponenti:**

- Razza (Bengala)
- Età (< 1 anno)
- Stress
- Co-infection (FeLV)

# PATOGENESI

**FECV → infezione asintomatica o lieve enterite**

**Sviluppo FIP per insorgenza mutanti dopo FECV**  
*“burst replication”*

  
In enterociti o  
monociti/macrofagi

**Sviluppo FIP: correlato a titolo virale e risposta immunitaria**

## FIPV ORIGIN: the internal mutation theory

FIPV arises by internal mutation from FECV within each cat

Each mutation is the result of positive selection pressures

- ❖ Initially for a switch from enterocyte to monocyte/macrophage tropism
- ❖ Ultimately for infection, replication and survival in peritoneal macrophages

Three different genes have been associated with FECV→FIPV mutation

# FIPV

DERIVA DA

# FECV

MECCANISMI MOLECOLARI NON COMPLETAMENTE NOTI

## DELEZIONI/MUTAZIONI PUNTIFORMI

■ ORFs 3c



Vennema et al., 1998

■ ORF 7a

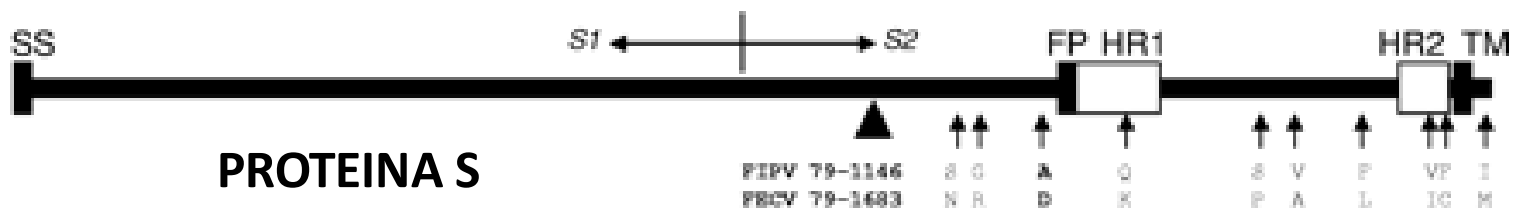


Kennedy et al., 2001

■ 3' end gene S



Rottier et al., 2005



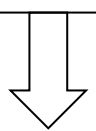
## **PATOGENESIS**

# **1. Mutations in the ORF 3c accessory gene**

**2/3 of FIPVs have ORF 3c mutations that lead to truncated protein**

**1/3 with no truncating mutations, have increased number of nt changes**

**Only truncating mutations have effect  
on host cell tropism**



**FIPVs with truncating ORF 3c mutations do not replicate in  
the gut epithelium, but efficiently replicate in  
macrophages**

## 2. Mutations in the 7a/7b ORF

- ❖ Deletion in the **7a ORF** has been associated to changes in virulence ultimately resulting in FIP
- ❖ The **7b ORF**, the 3' most gene, has been speculated to have a role in virulence, as deletions in this region lead to decreased virulence

(Herrewegh et al., 1995; Vennema et al., 1998)

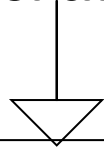
**Deletions in ORF 7b gene can occur naturally in both FECVs and FIPVs**

**ORF 7 is crucial for FIPV replication in monocytes/macrophages, but ORF 7 mutation is not involved in FECV-to-FIPV transformation**

## 3. Mutations in the S gene

**Mutations in the S gene are strongly associated with FIP**

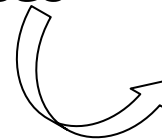
nt mutations caused minor changes in single aa (1058-met→leu; 1060-ser→ala)



**Even minor changes in aa might be responsible for increase  
macrophages tropism**

**These mutations were only observed in FIPVs diseased tissue and  
not in virus feces**

**These mutations occur in  
monocytes/macrophages**



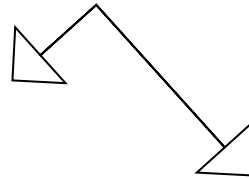
**Their role in causing disease is unknown,  
but they are more likely to be involved in macrophage infectivity  
than in subsequent host-virus immune interactions**

# PATOGENESI

**Sviluppo FIP: correlato a titolo virale e risposta immunitaria**

# FIP

**EFFUSIVA:**  
polisierosite, vasculite

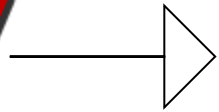


**SECCA:** granulomi

**In base a intensità della risposta immunitaria cellulare**

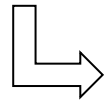


# FIPV



## INFEZIONE MACROFAGI

FECV perde tropismo per enterociti e lo acquista vs macrofagi

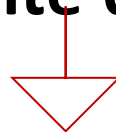


Dove avviene???

Squilibrio risposta LT vs LB è responsabile di incapacità a resistere all'infezione da FIPV

Produzione Abs è controproducente:

potenziano uptake e replicazione FIPV in macrofagi e contribuiscono a vasculite da ipersensibilità III tipo



**FIP effusiva:** Vigorosa risposta umorale, scarsa risposta cellulare

**FIP secca:**

Risposta cellulare parzialmente efficace in contenimento FIPV in pochi macrofagi

# FIP

**RISPOSTA CELLULARE ASSENTE**

**FORMA UMIDA**

**RISPOSTA CELLULARE DEBOLE**

**FORMA SECCA**

**RISPOSTA CELLULARE FORTE**

**NO MALATTIA**

**FIP effusiva e secca sono a volte interscambiabili:**

- ❖ Forma secca spesso segue a breve forma umida
- ❖ Stadi finali forma secca reversiono in forma umida

# FIPV



**INFEZIONE MACROFAGI**

**DISREGOLAZIONE CITOCHINE:**

- **AUMENTO** di IL-1 $\beta$ , IL-6, IL-10, **TNF- $\alpha$**
- **DIMINUZIONE** di **IF- $\gamma$** , IL-12, IL-18



**PATTERN DI TIPO Th2**

**APOPTOSI CELLULE T**

**CD4 e CD8**

**> RISPOSTA UMORALE**

**< RISPOSTA CELLULARE**

**AUMENTO PERMEABILITÀ VASALE e RICHIAMO MACROFAGI**

**EFFUSIONI CAVITARIE E  
FORMAZIONE DI GRANULOMI**



# PATOGENESI

**FIPV**



**INFEZIONE MACROFAGI**

**DISREGOLAZIONE RISPOSTA IMMUNITARIA:**

DEPLEZIONE NK e LTreg e  
RIDUZIONE ATTIVITÀ CITOTOSSICA NK

**Deplezione da sangue periferico, linfonodi mesenterici e milza**

## INFEZIONE SPERIMENTALE

De Groot-Mijnes et al., J. Virol., 2005

### 5 GRUPPI

### TEMPI DI SOPRAVVIVENZA

**FASE ACUTA (7-8 gg) e TEMPORANEA REMISSIONE**

- **RAPID PROGRESSORS**

- **INTERMEDIATE PROGRESSORS**

- **DELAYED PROGRESSORS**

- **PROLONGED SURVIVORS**

- **LONG-TERM SURVIVORS**

**RECRUDESCENZA E MORTE  
IN 21, 28 E 35 gg P.I.**

**EPISODI FEBBRILI E MORTE  
IN 50-54 gg P.I.**

**CONTROLLO della MALATTIA**

**EVOLUZIONE IN FUNZIONE DELLA RISPOSTA CELLULARE**

**PATOGENESI**

**FIP umida → Piogranuloma**

**FIP secca → Granuloma**

**Piogranuloma:**

- ❖ **accumulo di macrofagi, neutrofili, linfociti e plasmacellule intorno alle venule**

Risultato di upregulation di molecole di adesione e dei recettori

- ❖ **accumulo di liquido in cavità**

VEGF: fattore responsabile di versamento

Ricco di proteine plasmatiche, fattori di coagulazione, proteine infiammatorie e prodotti di degradazione di Hb

# SINTOMATOLOGIA

Quadri clinici estremamente variabili

**FEBBRE CRONICA FLUTTUANTE, LETARGIA, ANORESSIA,  
PERDITA PESO**

**FORMA UMIDA**

**DECORSO RAPIDO  
(4-5 SETTIMANE)**

**FORMA SECCA**

Più difficile da diagnosticare

**DECORSO PROTRATTO  
(SETTIMANE-MESI)**

## FORMA UMIDA

**VERSAMENTI IN ADDOME, TORACE, PERICARDIO,  
VASCULITE e LESIONI PIOGRANULOMATOSE**

- PERITONITE (90%)
- PLEURITE (40%)



**Aumento volume rene, ispessimento ileocecale e/o colon  
(diarrea cronica e vomito), linfadenomegalia, dispnea per  
polmonite piogranulomatosa**

**SHOCK, MORTE**



# FORMA SECCA

## FORME CLINICHE

### LESIONI PIOGRANULOMATOSE DIFFUSE

- PERITONEO (50%)
- PLEURE (10%)
- OCCHIO/SNC (30%/10%)
- ORGANI ADDOMINALI: rene, linfonodi, fegato, milza, pancreas

### Segni neurologici (10% dei casi)

Paresi posteriore, incoordinazione, iperestesia, convulsioni, pedalage, paralisi n. sciatico, facciale, trigemino, brachiale, nistagmo

### SEGNI OCULARI

Uveite e corioretinite, emorragie retiniche e distacco, cambio colore e gonfiore iride con lesioni nodulari

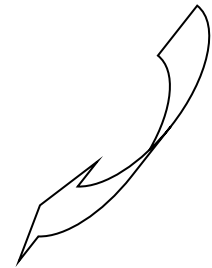
### SEGNI CUTANEI

Lesioni multiple nodulari per flebite necrotica-piogranulomatosa e fragilità cutanea



## FORMA UMIDA/SECCA

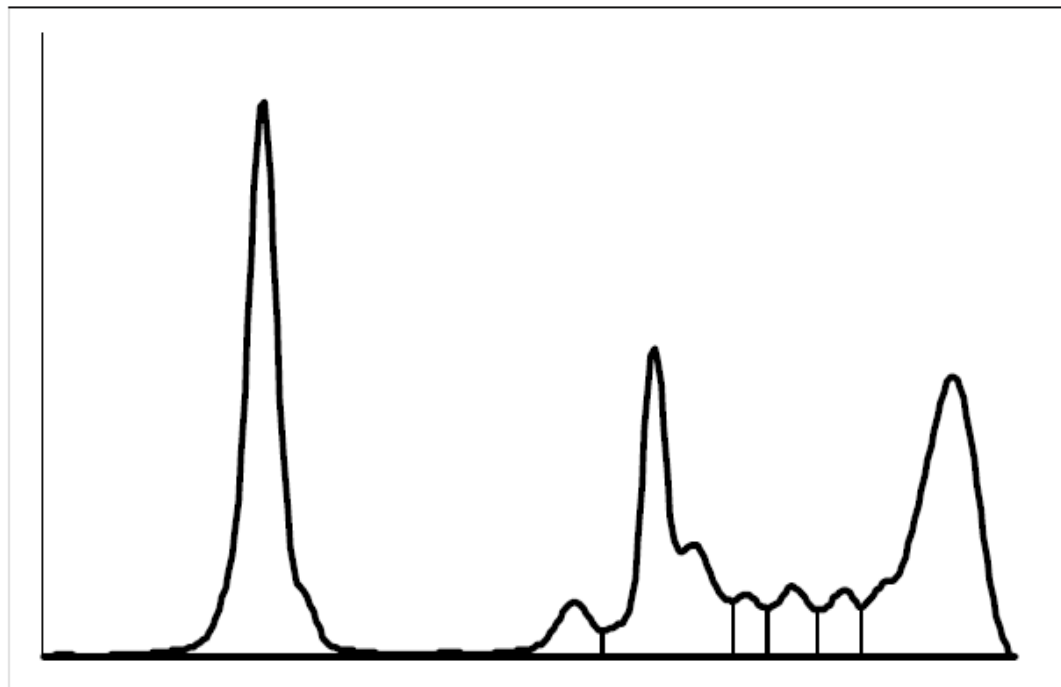
- **Neutrofilia/Linfopenia** «Leucogramma da stress»
- **Anemia non rigenerativa (HCT<30%)** • **> Proteine seriche (12gr/dl)**
  - **Ipergammaglobulinemia e >  $\alpha$ 2-globuline**
    - **Rapporto albumine/globuline (Ipoalbuminemia)**
- **Aumento glicoproteina acida  $\alpha$ 1 (AGP)**
  - dd con cardiomiopatie e tumori,**  
**ma non con traumi ed infezioni batteriche**
- **> enzimi epatici, urea, creatinina, bilirubina (ittero)**



# Esami di laboratorio

specie: GATTO razza: EUROPEO DSH sesso: F età: 7 mesi

## ELETTROFORESI



### Intervallo di riferimento

|                       |      | min  | max  |
|-----------------------|------|------|------|
| Albumina (%) :        | 34.8 | 39.4 | 54.8 |
| Globuline ALFA (%) :  | 25.1 | 17.8 | 27.6 |
| Globuline ALFA1 (%) : | 3.6  | 0.8  | 1.6  |
| Globuline ALFA2 (%) : | 21.5 | 17.0 | 26.0 |
| Globuline BETA (%) :  | 10.7 | 6.4  | 9.4  |
| Globuline BETA1 (%) : | 2.9  |      |      |
| Globuline BETA2 (%) : | 4.1  |      |      |
| Globuline BETA3 (%) : | 3.7  |      |      |
| Globuline GAMMA (%) : | 29.4 | 16.2 | 28.2 |
| Rapporto A/G:         | 0.53 |      |      |

# Esami di laboratorio

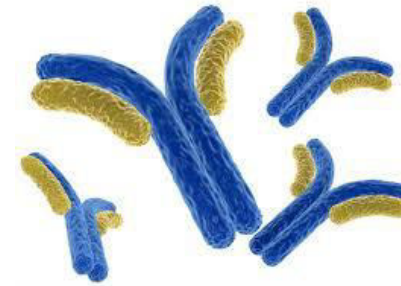
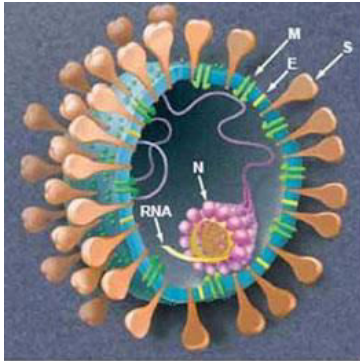
## PROFILO BIOCHIMICO

|                             |              | Intervallo di riferimento |      |
|-----------------------------|--------------|---------------------------|------|
|                             |              | min                       | max  |
| CPK (IU/L) :                | 144          | 90                        | 320  |
| AST (IU/L) :                | 26           | 15                        | 35   |
| ALT (IU/L) :                | 27           | 32                        | 87   |
| ALP (IU/L) :                | 46           | 19                        | 70   |
| GGT (IU/L) :                | 0.1          | 0.1                       | 0.6  |
| Colinesterasi (IU/L) :      | 2809         | 1955                      | 3950 |
| Bilirubina Totale (mg/dL) : | 0.22         | 0.14                      | 0.26 |
| Proteine Totali (g/dL) :    | 8.1          | 6.3                       | 7.8  |
| Albumine (g/dL) :           | 2.4          | 3.0                       | 4.0  |
| Globuline (g/dL) :          | 5.7          | 3.0                       | 4.5  |
| Rapporto A/G:               | 0.42         | 0.72                      | 1.25 |
| Colesterolo (mg/dL) :       | 119          | 95                        | 210  |
| Trigliceridi (mg/dL) :      | 33           | 19                        | 81   |
| Urea (mg/dL) :              | 57           | 32                        | 64   |
| Creatinina (mg/dL) :        | 0.93         | 0.95                      | 1.85 |
| Glucosio (mg/dL) :          | 84           | 86                        | 116  |
| Calcio (mg/dL) :            | 9.8          | 9.3                       | 11.2 |
| Fosforo (mg/dL) :           | 6.6          | 3.5                       | 6.6  |
| Magnesio (mg/dL) :          | 0.86         | 0.81                      | 1.05 |
| Sodio (mEq/L) :             | 151          | 145                       | 152  |
| Potassio (mEq/L) :          | 4.4          | 3.5                       | 4.7  |
| Rapporto Na/K:              | 34.4         | 31                        | 43   |
| Cloro (mEq/L) :             | 119          | 112                       | 119  |
| Cloro corretto (mEq/L) :    | 123.2        | 112                       | 119  |
| Lattato (mmol/L) :          | 4.4          | 0.3                       | 1.1  |
| HCO-3 (mmol/L) :            | 13.2         | 12.0                      | 22.5 |
| Divario Anionico:           | 23.0         | 14.5                      | 24.0 |
| Osmol. sier. mis. (mOsm) :  | 305          | 303                       | 313  |
| Osmol. sier. calc. (mOsm) : | 295          | 285                       | 296  |
| Div. Osmolale:              | 10           | 15                        | 25   |
| Ferro totale (µg/dL) :      | 24           | 50                        | 118  |
| UIBC (µg/dL) :              | 177          | 130                       | 225  |
| TIBC (µg/dL) :              | 201          | 175                       | 303  |
| Saturazione (%) :           | 11.9         | 19.5                      | 42.5 |
| <b>SAA (µg/ml) :</b>        | <b>149.4</b> | 0.1                       | 0.5  |

# Diagnosi

## Cosa fare

**VIRUS O PARTI DI ESSO**  
(antigeni, RNA)



**ANTICORPI**  
No vaccini (USA)

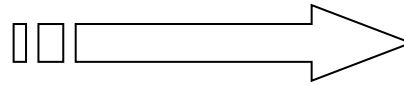
**NON È POSSIBILE DIFFERENZIARE FIPV DA FECV**

*“More cats die that are misdiagnosed based on vets taking the word for these tests as gospel or over inflating their value, than the number of cats who truly have FIP” – Niels Pedersen*

## INTRA VITAM

ANAMNESI

SINTOMATOLOGIA



## DIAGNOSI

Gattili  
Febbri ricorrenti



## POST MORTEM

ESAME ANATOMO-ISTOPATOLOGICO

IMMUNOISTOCHEMICA

RT-PCR su ORGANI

Macrofagi infetti



# DIAGNOSI

POST MORTEM

Quale test/campione per FIP?

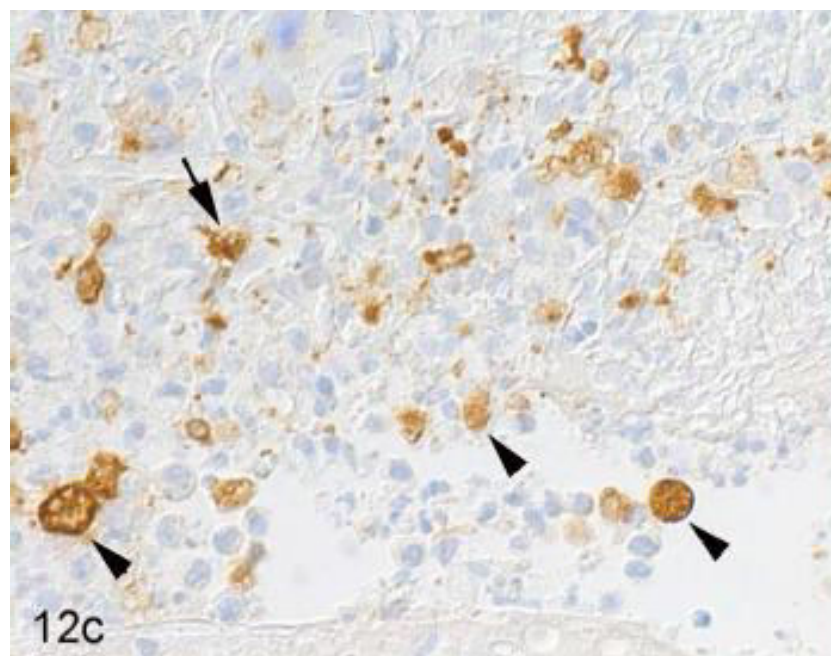
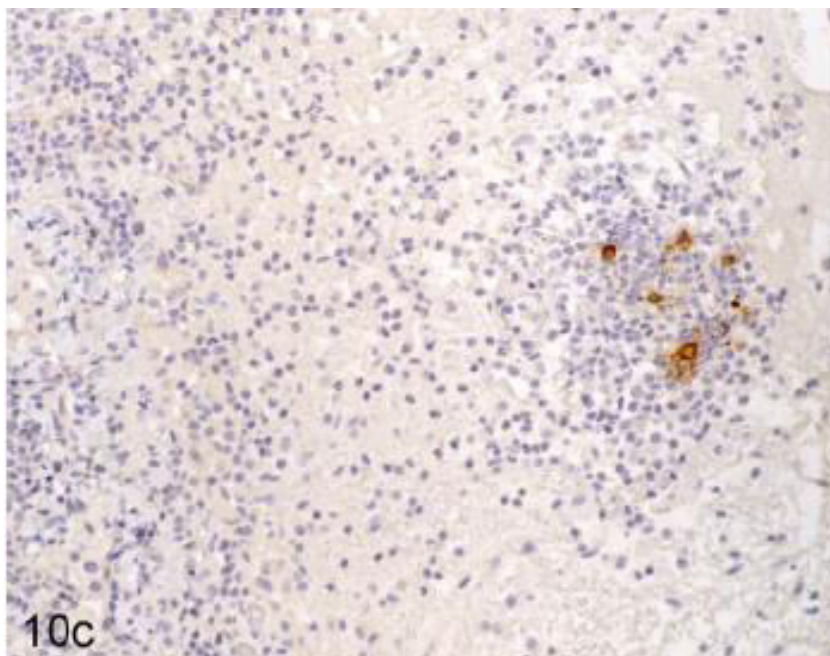
## IMMUNOISTOCHIMICA (IHC)

AG VIRALI IN TESSUTI INFETTI (MACROFAGI)

GOLD STANDARD

*Pleura*

*Corteccia renale (vena)*



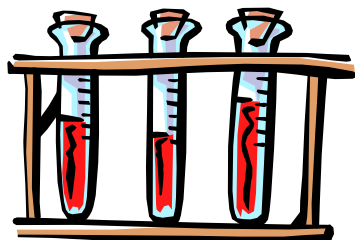
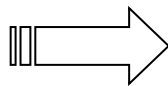


# DIAGNOSI

## Quale test/campione per FIP?

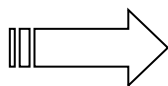
### INTRA VITAM

#### • ESAMI EMATOLOGICI



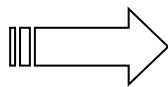
- ❖ Neutrofilia/linfopenia
- ❖ Ipergammaglobulinemia
- ❖ Albumina/globulina ratio
- ❖ Ipoalbuminemia
- ❖ Anemia
- ❖ Aumento AGP

#### • BIOPSIA



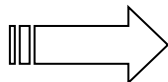
**Chirurgica**  
**Non invasiva**

#### • ANALISI EFFUSIONI

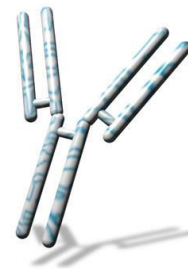


**Elevato contenuto proteico**

#### • SIEROLOGIA



**Non attendibile!**



# DIAGNOSI

Quale test/campione per FIP?

**INTRA VITAM**

## PROVA DI RIVALTA:

**DIFFERENZA ESSUDATO DA TRASUDATO**

### ESSUDATO:

- giallo, torbido, viscoso
  - ricco proteine
- macrofagi, neutrofili e linfociti (500-5000 $\mu$ l)
- emorragico (+/-)
  - no purulento

### FORMA UMIDA



Courtesy Diana Addie, Feline Institute, Pyrenees, France.  
Greene: Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat, 4th Edition  
Copyright © 2012, 2006, 1998, 1990 by Saunders, an imprint of Elsevier Inc.

# DIAGNOSI

Quale test/campione per FIP?

**INTRA VITAM**

## SIEROLOGIA

**Abs PER FCoV IN SIERO**

FORMA UMIDA  
FORMA SECCA

- IFI
- SN
- Test rapidi (RIM, ICGA)

**NON È POSSIBILE DIFFERENZIARE Ab PER FIPV DA Ab PER FECV**  
**TITOLI Ab > 1:800 ALTAMENTE INDICATIVI DI FIP**

Healthy cats with titers < 1:100: infrequently shed FCEV  
Cats with titers > 1:400: usually shed FECV

Low Abs titers in confirmed FIP: virus binds Abs



Necessaria conferma con Real time PCR

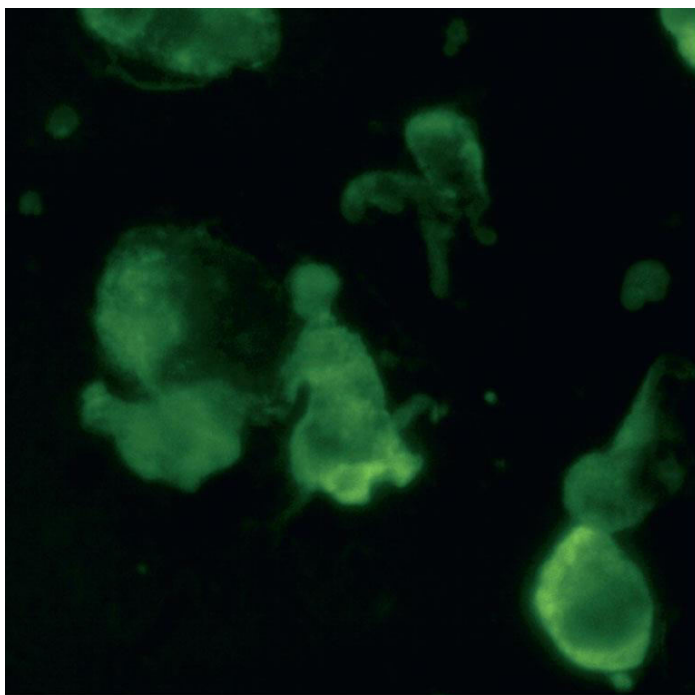
# DIAGNOSI

INTRA VITAM

Quale test/campione per FIP?

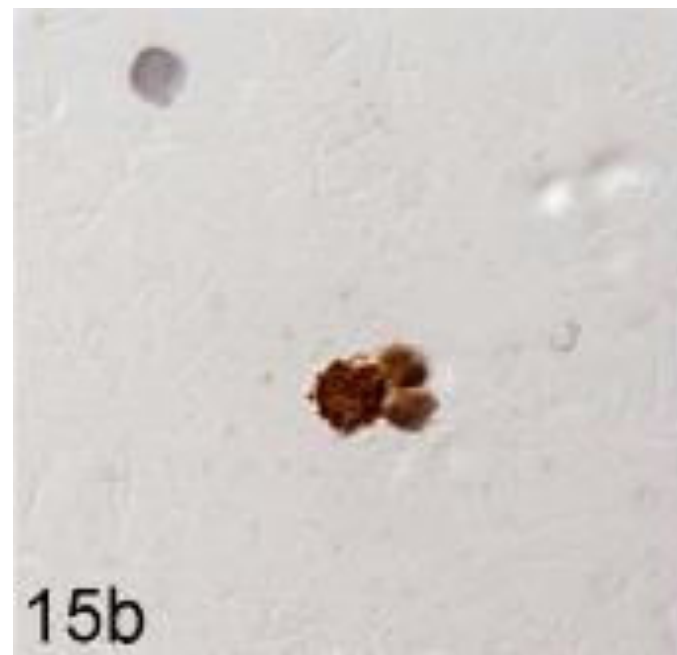
IMMUNOFLUORESCENZA/IHC FORMA UMIDA

AG VIRALI IN MACROFAGI EFFUSIONI



Photograph by Wayne Roberts © 2004 University of Georgia Research Foundation Inc.  
Caption: Infectious Diseases of the Dog and Cat, 4th Edition  
Copyright © 2012, 2006, 1998, 1990 by Saunders, an imprint of Elsevier Inc.

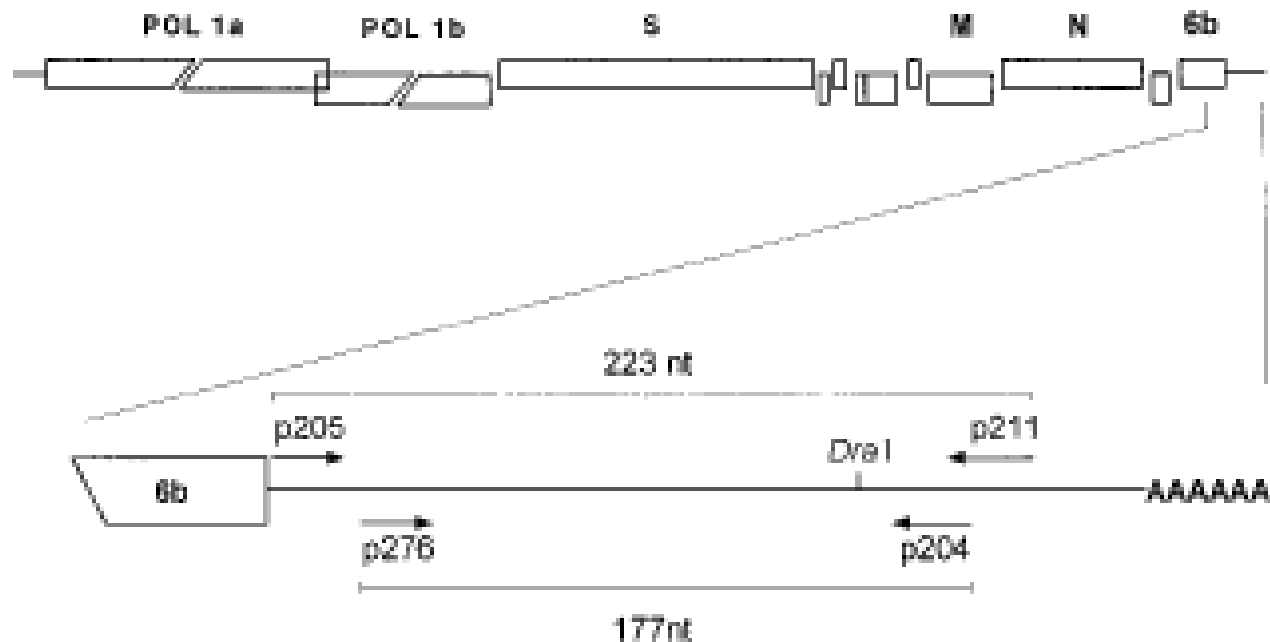
*Addie, 2012*



*Kipar e Meli, 2014*

### Detection of Feline Coronavirus RNA in Feces, Tissues, and Body Fluids of Naturally Infected Cats by Reverse Transcriptase PCR

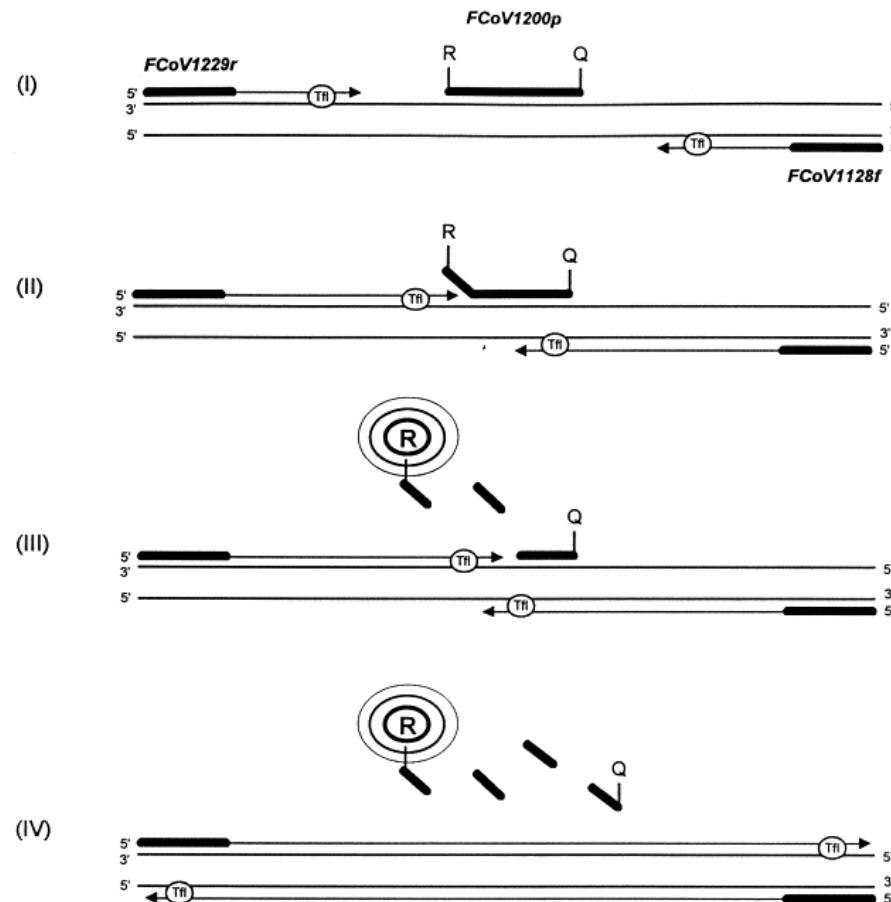
ARNOLD A. P. M. HERREWEGH,<sup>1\*</sup> RAOUL J. DE GROOT,<sup>1</sup> ARNOST CEPICA,<sup>2</sup>  
HERMAN F. EGBERINK,<sup>1</sup> MARIAN C. HORZINEK,<sup>1</sup>



**NO DISCRIMINAZIONE TRA FIPV E FECV**

One-tube fluorogenic reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction for the quantitation of feline coronaviruses

Marco Gut <sup>a,\*</sup>, Christian M. Leutenegger <sup>a,1</sup>, Jon B. Huder <sup>b</sup>, Niels C. Pedersen <sup>c</sup>,  
Hans Lutz <sup>a</sup>



**NO DISCRIMINAZIONE TRA FIPV E FECV**

## A mRNA PCR for the diagnosis of feline infectious peritonitis

Fermin A. Simons<sup>a,\*</sup>, Harry Vennema<sup>c</sup>, Jaime E. Rofina<sup>b</sup>, Jan M. Pol<sup>d</sup>,  
Marian C. Horzinek<sup>c</sup>, Peter J.M. Rottier<sup>a</sup>, Herman F. Egberink<sup>a</sup>

### **PRIMER For CONTIENE SEQUENZA LEADER (solo mRNA)**

Results of FCoV mRNA RT-PCR in cats with clinical symptoms consistent with FIP and in healthy cats

| Cats (n = 1075)   | mRNA positive | mRNA negative |
|---|---------------|---------------|
| Cats with clinical symptoms indicative of FIP (n = 651) | 301/651 (46%) | 350/651 (54%) |
| Cats without clinical symptoms (n = 424)                | 23/424 (5%)   | 401/424 (95%) |

Table 4

Results of FCoV mRNA RT-PCR of cats examined post-mortem

| Cats (n = 98)                     | mRNA positive | mRNA negative |
|-----------------------------------|---------------|---------------|
| Cats with proven FIP (n = 81)     | 75/81 (93%)   | 6/81 (7%)     |
| Cats with other diseases (n = 17) | 0/17 (0%)     | 17/17 (100%)  |

**RT-PCR PER mRNA SU SANGUE: POCO SENSIBILE**

### The detection of feline coronaviruses in blood samples from cats by mRNA RT-PCR

Kezban Can-Şahna DVM, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Veysel Soydal Ataseven DVM, PhD<sup>2</sup>,  
Dilek Pınar Res Ass<sup>2</sup>, Tuba Çiğdem Oğuzoğlu Dr MedVet<sup>3\*</sup>

**Table 1.** Distribution of FCoV infection in cats according to age and sex

| Age                     | Tested cat (n) | Number of FCoV detected (%) | Sex          |                   | Remarks  |           |
|-------------------------|----------------|-----------------------------|--------------|-------------------|----------|-----------|
|                         |                |                             | Tested ♀:♂   | FCoV detected ♀:♂ | Indoor   | Outdoor   |
| 6 months–1 year         | 7              | 5 (71%)                     | 4:3          | 3:2               | 1*       | 6         |
| 2 years                 | 6              | 3 (50%)                     | 4:2          | 3:0               | –        | 6         |
| 3 years                 | 7              | 2 (29%)                     | 4:3          | 1:1               | –        | 7         |
| 5 years                 | 1              | 1 (100%)                    | 1:0          | 1:0               | –        | 1         |
| 6 years                 | 1              | 1 (100%)                    | 1:0          | 1:0               | 1†       | –         |
| 7 years                 | 1              | 1 (100%)                    | 0:1          | 0:1               | 1†       | –         |
| 13 years                | 1              | 1 (100%)                    | 1:0          | 1:0               | 1†       | –         |
| Unknown (>6 months old) | 2              | 0 (0%)                      | 1:1          | 0:0               | –        | 2         |
| <b>Total</b>            | <b>26</b>      | <b>14 (54%)</b>             | <b>16:10</b> | <b>10:4</b>       | <b>4</b> | <b>22</b> |

\*Cat with clinical signs of FIP.

†Three pedigree cats from same household.

**ANCHE FECV REPLICA NEL SANGUE**

**RT-PCR PER mRNA SU SANGUE: POCO SPECIFICA**

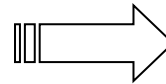


# DIAGNOSI

- RT-PCR SU SANGUE ED EFFUSIONI

**ANCHE FECV PUÒ ESSERE PRESENTE IN SANGUE ED EFFUSIONI!!!**

**RT-PCR SU mRNA GENE M  
(sequenza leader)**



Simons et al.,  
J. Virol. Methods, 2005

**SOLO VIRUS IN ATTIVA REPLICAZIONE**

**Feline coronavirus quantitative reverse transcriptase polymerase chain reaction on effusion samples in cats with and without feline infectious peritonitis**

J. Feline Med. Surg. 2017 Feb;19(2):240-245.  
doi: 10.1177/1098612X15606957

Louise Longstaff<sup>1\*</sup>, Emily Porter<sup>2\*</sup>, Victoria J Crossley<sup>1</sup>,  
Sophie E Hayhow<sup>2</sup>, Christopher R Helps<sup>3</sup> and Séverine Tasker<sup>1,3</sup>

**Table 2** Sensitivity, specificity, and positive and negative predictive values (PPV and NPV, respectively) of effusion reverse transcriptase quantitative PCR for the diagnosis of feline infectious peritonitis (FIP)

|                   | Percentage | 95% CI     |
|-------------------|------------|------------|
| Sensitivity       | 85.0       | 65.1–96.8  |
| Specificity       | 100.0      | 85.2–100.0 |
| PPV               | 100.0      | 80.5–100.0 |
| NPV               | 88.5       | 69.9–97.6  |
| Prevalence of FIP | 46.5       | 31.5–62.2  |

**ELEVATA SPECIFICITÀ, SENSIBILITÀ DISCRETA**

# REAL-TIME RT-PCR

## Quale campione per FIP?

### Detection of feline coronavirus in cerebrospinal fluid for diagnosis of feline infectious peritonitis in cats with and without neurological signs

*Journal of Feline Medicine and Surgery*  
1–6  
© ISFM and AAFP 2015

Stephanie J Doenges<sup>1</sup>, Karin Weber<sup>1</sup>, Roswitha Dorsch<sup>1</sup>, Robert Fux<sup>2</sup>, Andrea Fischer<sup>1</sup>, Lara A Matiasek<sup>1</sup>, Kaspar Matiasek<sup>3</sup> and Katrin Hartmann<sup>1</sup>

**Table 1** Cats with feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), clinical signs, method of confirmation of the diagnosis of FIP, presence of neurological and/or ocular signs, and threshold cycle (Ct) values of the tested cerebrospinal fluid (CSF) sample

| Cat | Signs for inclusion                                    | Diagnosis | Confirmation | Method of confirmation | Neurological and/or ocular signs   | Ct values CSF   |
|-----|--|-----------|--------------|------------------------|--|-----------------|
| 1   | Thoracic effusion, icterus                             | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | Seizures   | No Ct           |
| 2   | Thoracic effusion, fever                               | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | 36.1 (positive) |
| 3   | Thoracic effusion                                      | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 4   | Ascites, icterus, neurological signs                   | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | Seizures   | 32.1 (positive) |
| 5   | Ascites, icterus                                       | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 6   | Thoracic effusion                                      | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 7   | Ascites  | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 8   | Thoracic and pericardial effusions                     | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | 31.7 (positive) |
| 9   | Ascites, neurological signs                            | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | Paresis, ataxia, anisocoria, inability to control urination and defecation | 32.6 (positive) |
| 10  | Ascites, fever, icterus, neurological and ocular signs | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | Paresis, uveitis   | 32.0 (positive) |
| 11  | Ascites, icterus                                       | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 12  | Ascites, icterus                                       | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 13  | Ascites, icterus                                       | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 14  | Thoracic effusion and ascites, fever                   | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 15  | Fever, icterus, neurological signs                     | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | Ataxia   | 26.5 (positive) |
| 16  | Fever, ocular signs                                    | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | Uveitis  | 32.0 (positive) |
| 17  | Thoracic effusion, fever, ocular signs                 | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | Uveitis  | 29.9 (positive) |
| 18  | Thoracic effusion and ascites, fever                   | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |
| 19  | Ascites, fever, icterus                                | FIP       | Post mortem  | Histopathology         | –  | No Ct           |

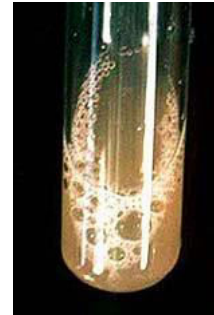
**CSF:**  
**BUONA SENSIBILITÀ**  
**IN GATTI CON SEGNI**  
**NEUROLOGICI E/O**  
**OCULARI**

**DIAGNOSI INTRA-**  
**VITAM FIP SECCA**

# DIAGNOSI FIP

## *Cosa facciamo?*

**FORMA** *REAL-TIME RT-PCR*  
**UMIDA** *SIEROLOGIA*



**RNA VIRALE**  
**TITOLO Ab**

**FORMA** *FORME NERVOSE/OCULARI*  
**SECCA** *REAL-TIME RT-PCR*



**RNA VIRALE**

## ALTRE MANIFESTAZIONI

**SIEROLOGIA**

**REAL-TIME RT-PCR**  
**ISTOLOGIA/IHC**



**TITOLO Ab**

**RNA VIRALE**  
**QUADRO ISTOLOGICO/Ag VIRALI**

Vet Clin Small Anim 41 (2011) 1133–1169  
doi:10.1016/j.cvsm.2011.08.004

## Feline Coronavirus in Multicat Environments

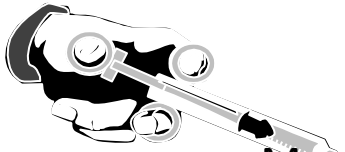
Yvonne Drechsler, PhD<sup>1</sup>, Ana Alcaraz, DVM, PhD,  
Frank J. Bossong, DVM, Ellen W. Collisson, PhD,  
Pedro Paulo V.P. Diniz, DVM, PhD<sup>\*1</sup>

**Table 3**  
Common methods to prevent FCoV infection and control feline infectious peritonitis outbreaks in multicat environments

|   |                     |  |   |  |
|---|---------------------|--|---|--|
| Grouping by shedding status                             | Effective           | Prevents reinfection of cats<br>Increases socialization        | Requires frequent serology or fecal PCR testing to determine shedding status  | Only 1/3 of the seropositive cats shed the virus. Repeated fecal PCR test are required to document shedding. Expenses of lab tests may be a limiting factor. |
| Isolation and removal of chronic shedders from facility | Partially effective | Decreases risk of FIP by reducing frequent re-exposure to FCoV | May require depopulation if chronic shedders are not adoptable.<br>May increase risk of FIP in other cats at the adopters environment | Shedding decreases once the cat is isolated. Chronic shedders should be adopted only to single-cat households.   |

➤ IDENTIFICAZIONE GATTI INFETTI

➤ IDENTIFICAZIONE HIGH/CHRONIC SHEDDERS



# APPROCCI VACCINALI

Many attempts have been made to develop vaccines against FIP.  
Unfortunately most of these studies have failed, with ADE observed in several trials

## NON ESISTONO VACCINI TOTALMENTE EFFICACI!

### • VACCINI ETEROLOGHI

TGEV



Woods and Pedersen,  
Vet. Microbiol., 1979

CCoV



Barlough et al.,  
Lab. An. Sci., 1984  
Stoddart et al.,  
Res. Vet. Sci., 1988

HCoV



Barlough et al.,  
Can. J. Vet. Med., 1985

FECV



Pedersen et al.,  
Am. J. Vet. Res., 1984

### • VACCINI OMOLOGHI

FIPV  
avirulento



Pedersen and Black,  
Am. J. Vet. Res., 1983

## APPROCCI VACCINALI

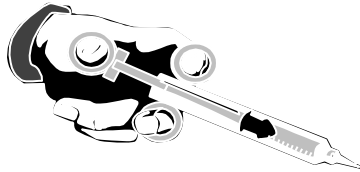
- VACCINI A SUBUNITÀ



PROTEINA M  
PROTEINA N



Glansbeek et al.,  
J. Gen. Virol., 2002



**NON PROTETTIVI**

- VACCINI RICOMBINANTI  
PROTEINA S



Vennema et al.,  
J. Virol., 1990

**ANTIBODY-DEPENDENT ENHANCEMENT (ADE)**

L'ingresso del virus nei macrofagi è esaltato dalla presenza di Abs  
(RECETTORI PER Fc)

# APPROCCI VACCINALI

*European Advisory Board on Cat Diseases (ABCD)*

**At present, there is only one vaccine commercially available (Primucell©, Pfizer), in the USA and some European countries.**

- FIPV TERMOSENSIBILE  
(in commercio)



Christianson et al.,  
Arch. Virol., 1989

Primucell® contains a **temperature sensitive mutant of the type 2 FCoV** strain DF2. The vaccine is administered **intranasally** and aims at inducing **local mucosal immune responses** through the induction of IgA and cell-mediated immunity.

However, it does induce seroconversion, although rarely, and titers are generally low.

Also the **efficacy of this vaccine is in question** - it contains a type-2 strain, whereas type-1 coronaviruses are the prevalent ones in the field in most countries.



# APPROCCI VACCINALI

*European Advisory Board on Cat Diseases (ABCD)*

Primucell® is ineffective in cats that have already experienced a FCoV field infection

Since Primucell® is licensed for use from 16 weeks of age and is not effective in younger cats, most kittens (especially those living in breeding colonies and multiple cat households) have already been infected and are seropositive.

**This is an important limitation for its use.**

The ADE that was a feature in some experimental vaccine trials has not been observed in field studies, suggesting that the vaccine can be considered safe

**Primucell© RISULTATI CONTRASTANTI**

Success rates between 0 and 75%

In a double-blind trial including 609 cats, no differences between the vaccinated and placebo group were found during the first 150 days after vaccination.

However, after 150 days, fewer FIP cases occurred in the vaccinated group compared to the placebo group (1 against 7)

# APPROCCI VACCINALI

*European Advisory Board on Cat Diseases (ABCD)*

## Primary vaccination course

A primary vaccination course consisting of **2 doses 3 weeks apart** from an **age of 16 weeks** onwards should be given.

Vaccination before 16 weeks was not shown to afford protection against infection.

Therefore there are two particular problems in breeding catteries:  
-firstly most kittens are already seropositive at the age of vaccination and  
-secondly FCoV infection occurs at a much younger age than 16 weeks

## Booster vaccination

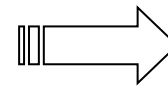
In cats of which the lifestyle has justified primary vaccination, **annual boosters** may be considered.

Although studies on the duration of immunity are lacking, it is thought to be short lived and regular boosters may be required

# APPROCCI VACCINALI

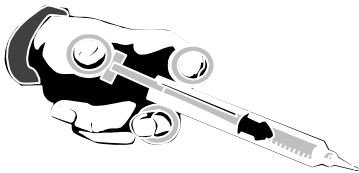
- MLV FIPV deleti dei geni gruppo specifici

$\Delta 3abc$   
 $\Delta 7ab$

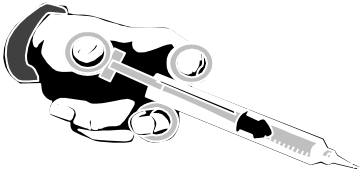


Hajiema et al.,  
J. Virol., 2004

**RISULTATI PROMETTENTI**



**SICURI**  
**PROTETTIVI**



# APPROCCI TERAPEUTICI

1. Impiego di farmaci che specificatamente inibiscono la replicazione virale
2. Impiego di farmaci in grado di inibire la risposta infiammatoria
3. Impiego di farmaci che stimolino in modo non specifico il sistema immunitario

# OBIETTIVI DI RICERCA

- BASI MOLECOLARI DELLA PATOGENICITÀ
  - MECCANISMI PATOGENETICI
- VACCINI BIVALENTI (entrambi i sierotipi)

**Prove effettuate quasi esclusivamente con FCoV tipo II**

**FCoV tipo I non facilmente coltivabile**



# STAI PENSANDO DI ACQUISTARE UN GATTINO DI RAZZA PURA?

Accertarsi che il gattino sia  
negativo al test per la  
ricerca degli anticorpi  
anti-coronavirus felino per  
evitare che in futuro possa  
manifestare la peritonite  
infettiva felina (PIF) ed  
andare incontro alla morte



L'informazione e la sensibilizzazione  
sono le migliori armi in nostro  
possesto per combattere la PIF

Visita il sito  
[www.catvirus.com](http://www.catvirus.com) per  
ulteriori informazioni sulla PIF



Design by Maurizio Carrozzini. Design sponsored by Maria S. Baines of Lucia  
Borneri & Associates LLC Health Management  
[www.lucialborneriassociates.com](http://www.lucialborneriassociates.com)

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offered through LFC Financial, member FIDELITY.





***GRAZIE PER  
L'ATTENZIONE!***