

PIIICCKK MEEEEEEEEEEEEEE!

PICK ME!!

Pick me!



Please . . .

PLEEEEEASE . . .

Okay . . . bye . . . see ya' later??



Really?? You came back for me?

THANK YOU!! I'm forever grateful.



I love you THIS much!!!



Now I can sleep a little easier . . .



"Little Lotto" is a special 10 week old kitten that is the cutest of the cute. She is black and white, extra fluffy, with a personality to beat the band. She is affectionate, cute, cuddly and oh so adorable! Pretty much a typical playful kitten. So what makes her so special? Little Lotto has tested positive for the FIV virus.

HOWEVER, what many people don't know is that at this young of an age the vast majority (almost all!) of these positive test results actually end up being a FALSE positive. How this happens is: the FIV virus is generally not transmitted from the mother cat to the kittens "in utero" (in the uterus), although it can happen on very rare occasions during passage through the birth canal. However, an infected mother cat can transfer FIV antibodies to nursing kittens. The same is true if the mother was vaccinated against the virus - again, the antibodies from the vaccination can get transferred to the kittens. What that means is that just because a kitten temporarily carries the antibodies does NOT mean it is infected with the disease. But, since the blood test for FIV is an antibody test, it will pick up those antibodies in the kitten's blood and present as a positive result.

So, a young kitten testing positive does not necessarily have the infection – in fact the overwhelming majority don't. The maternal antibodies from the mother cat will cause a false positive result of the FIV test. It can take up to 16 weeks for kittens to clear this antibody material from their bloodstream at which time most kittens will then test negative.

So, the bottom line is that we will have to wait a few months before we are able to re-test with more accuracy, at which time hopefully we'll get a better result. But in the meantime, Little Lotto is still looking for her forever home.

Even though the overwhelming odds are that she is not truly positive, she should not be put with other cats or kittens now, just to err on the side of caution. She's an active little baby, so will need lots of interactive human play time. And of course, lots of love and kindness.

The good news is, the latest research shows that, even on the slight chance that she remains positive, most FIV cats can live healthy lives of normal or close to normal life span and the ONLY way that they can pass the virus to another cat is directly into the bloodstream through a puncture bite wound. It is NOT spread to other cats by casual contact (licking, sharing food bowls or litterboxes, etc). FIV is also NOT contagious to dogs or humans.

This kitten is a total little sweetie who deserves a chance at life and a family to call her own. Her discounted adoption fee of \$75 includes: Vet exam, Feline Leukemia test, FIV test, flea preventative, FVRCP (distemper combo) vaccination, deworming, spaying, plus, we will pay for her next blood test. Her adoption fee has been discounted as a Thank You for considering this precious little girl.

Read more about FIV here:

<http://www.vet.cornell.edu/fhc/brochures/fiv.html>

<http://www.peteducation.com/article.cfm?cls=1&articleid=213>

<http://www.afaboston.org/fivcats.html>

