Vetlab Supplies
Specialists in Veterinary Laboratory Supplies

FLASH VetID™ C. felis

A fastidious organism that culture keeps missing



Fast test for the qualitative detection of DNA of *Chamydia felis* in conjunctival, nasal, or oropharyngeal swabs of the cat.

35 minutes	Detects bacterial DNA	Room temperature	12 months
TOTAL ASSAY TIME	TEST	STORAGE	SHELF LIFE (FROM MFG)

Aids in antibiotic course duration decision

Sensitivity 100.00% & specificity 100.00% (n=58)

Sample: Conjunctival and oropharyngeal swab (essential); add a nasal swab if secretions are present

Clinical suspicion:

- Chronic conjunctivitis starting unilateral and progressing to bilateral
- Marked chemosis with serous-to-mucopurulent discharge
- Blepharospasm and hyperaemia of the conjunctiva
- Mild concurrent upper respiratory signs; fever is uncommon
- Young cats (5–12 months) in catteries or multi-cat households most often affected

Screening / prevention programs:

- Cattery and breeding-colony screening where chronic conjunctivitis recurs
- New arrivals into multi-cat environments before mixing
- Kittens from queens with a history of chlamydial conjunctivitis
- Work-up of conjunctivitis that fails standard topical therapy



FLASH DIAGNOSTICS

FLASH VetID™ C. felis

The Pathogen and Transmission

Chlamydia felis is an obligate intracellular, Gram-negative bacterium that replicates exclusively within host epithelial cells, principally those of the conjunctiva. It is distributed worldwide and spreads through direct contact with ocular secretions, making close-contact environments such as catteries, shelters and breeding colonies particularly susceptible to sustained circulation. Reported zoonotic transmission is rare but has been described.

Species-Specific Manifestations

Feline chlamydiosis is primarily a disease of the conjunctiva: infection classically begins unilaterally and progresses to bilateral, chemotic conjunctivitis with discharge, sometimes with mild rhinitis; systemic signs are uncommon. Young cats, particularly kittens between roughly five and twelve months of age raised in group settings, are disproportionately affected, and untreated infection can persist for weeks, contributing to ongoing transmission within a colony.

The Diagnostic Value Proposition

C. felis is fastidious and historically required cell culture or immunofluorescence. FLASH VetID™ C. felis offers nucleic acid detection that is faster, does not depend on organism viability, and directly targets the intracellular replication site when a conjunctival swab is collected. Clinically, antibiotic course differs from that for other bacterial upper respiratory tract infections, such as *M. felis*.

+ Positive Result

Confirms *C. felis* DNA and, together with compatible clinical signs, supports a diagnosis of feline chlamydial conjunctivitis warranting systemic (not solely topical) antimicrobial therapy.

– Negative Result

Makes active *C. felis* infection unlikely at the sampled site. It does not rule out conjunctivitis due to other causes.

Gold-standard confirmation

Confirm in cattery outbreak or breeding-colony contexts with laboratory qPCR to guide colony-wide treatment and re-testing schedules.

Differential diagnostics

Test in parallel with FLASH VetID™ M. felis and FLASH VetID™ FHV, the principal differentials for feline conjunctivitis, to avoid mismatched (e.g. antiviral vs antibacterial) therapy.