

Desi's History Updated 11-27-17

Desiree Angelique (Desi), Blue Point Birman born 6-30-2006 4 siblings, 1 female, 3 males. The breeder gave her the preliminary vaccinations.

On 9-21-06, I brought her home. She had a problem in her left eye, which was red. The breeder thought another cat batted Desi in the eye.

On 9-25-06, I took her to my vet's where she was diagnosed with an URI & Conjunctivitis. Given Clavamox 15 ml bottle & Qxytetracycline Hydrochloride ointment for her eye. I also had blood work done. Mostly normal except: CPK 1384 (56-529) WBC 19.7 (3.5-16.0) Neutrophils 12608 (2500-8500) FIP Specific Elisa 1:40 (◀ 1:40).

The eye & URI seemed to get better, but returned to the previous condition. On 10-24-06, we returned to the vet. Desi's left eye was extremely painful to her, especially when any light was directed to the eye. Given Neobacimyx (Trioptic-P) & Cefa Drops 15 ml bottle.

Because of the recurring eye problems, I scheduled an appointment with an eye specialist, who comes to my vet's office weekly.

11/7/06 Desi received her Rabies vaccination. (My cats only receive 1 vaccination per visit).

11/14/06 Eye appointment with Dr. Jerome M. Glickstein, VMD. Diagnosed Desi with Uveitis of the left eye & an extra set of eyelashes on both eyes. Because of her history of URIs and eye problems, he suggested we repeat the FIP Elisa. He suspected that her virus level was increasing. His theory is that young cats with immature immune systems can't handle a Herpes virus and potential FIP related coronavirus at the same time. If Desi's titer was increasing, he suggested a treatment he has used on his own cats. To date, everyone he's treated hasn't developed FIP & their titers were either greatly reduced and in most cases, converted to negative.

Desi's titer came back 1:320 (1:40 previously). I decided to start the treatment of Vibramycin 19MG/1.5ML suspension daily for 6 weeks. Since it was a lot to give her at one time, I obtained my vet's permission to give .75ML BID. She hated the raspberry flavor, so for subsequent refills, a pharmacist compounded the Vibramycin & mixed it with a tuna oil flavor. She still didn't love it, but it was easier to give. The cost for the 6 weeks was about \$120.00. I also started giving

her Lysine 500 MG OD. In addition, I gave her a multiple vitamin paste several times a week. She is a terrific eater, and has always eaten well.

On 12/1/07, she had her 3rd FVRCCP vaccination & an exam. All was well, & there have been no URI or eye problem recurrences.

On 12/27/06 she was spayed. Desi received ISOFL anesthesia. Her pre-op blood work was normal, except for an ALT reading of 2176 (12-115). To reduce her stress level, I brought her home the same evening. (The vet's office wasn't staffed overnight & Desi had never been alone). She did great.

On 1/9/07, we returned for Desi's stitches to be removed and for blood work. A liver profile indicated everything, including the ALT, was normal. Her FIP Specific Elisa was 1:80, 1:320 previously. (We never retested to see further reduction).

Desi appears to be a happy, healthy little cat. She will be 7 months old on January 30th & she almost weighs 6 lbs.

I had the opportunity to see Dr. Glickstein this week. He was very pleased with Desi's progress, & said that he suspects her next titer will most likely be negative. He has never tried to submit an article to a journal concerning his experience with Vibramycin, because he doesn't have detailed research to support it. He believes that the 6 weeks of the antibiotic may well prevent neurological FIP in certain instances, if started early in the disease process. He gave me permission to share his information with anyone who might be interested.

Susan E. Gingrich, MHS, RN

Note: Desi will be 10 on June 30, 2016. She has some early renal indicators, which we are watching. A slight heart murmur was detected recently-testing showed no overt problems. It is also something our vet is watching. Otherwise, she is a happy, active, healthy girl.

Update 11-27-17: Desi is now 11 with normal renal values and her heart murmur causes no problems. She takes AminoVast which I believe helps maintain kidney function.