

FELINE INJECTION-SITE SARCOMA

(previously described as Feline Vaccine Induced Fibro Sarcoma)

1. Every injection site lump should be rechecked by a veterinarian. It is important to note that most lumps that develop at a feline injection site do not go on to form cancer. I have seen three cases in the past 30 years that were tumors.
2. If a tumor does develop, an injection-site sarcoma can be a locally aggressive form of cancer with the potential to metastasize (spread).
3. The following is a published standardized monitoring protocol. If an injection site lump defies these criteria, then intervention is recommended.
 1. The lump should not be growing past one month.
 2. The lump should not grow larger than two centimeters.
 3. The lump should have resolved and be gone by three months.
4. Depending on which vaccines were given, it is recommended to monitor the right and left hind legs, as well as the right front leg. These are standard locations for giving vaccinations in cats.
5. Benefits of vaccines far outweigh the risks in most cases. To reduce risk, age, health status, environment and previous vaccinations will be used to determine the most appropriate vaccine protocol for a specific individual.

Pet Network link:

<http://www.pethealthnetwork.com/cat-health/cat-diseases-conditions-a-z/3-most-common-cancers-cats>