**Typical findings in cats with FIP**

**Comments**

### Blood

- **CBC**
  - Non-regenerative anemia, microcytosis, lymphopenia, thrombocytopenia, band neutrophilia
  - Findings are non-specific for FIP

- **Serum biochemistry**
  - Hyperglobulinemia, hypoalbuminemia, hyperbilirubinemia, low A:G ratio
  - Other abnormalities depending on organ involvement
  - A/G ratio:
    - <0.4 = FIP slightly more likely
    - >0.6 = FIP slightly less likely

- **AGP**
  - Moderate to marked elevation
  - >1.5 g/l = FIP moderately more likely
  - >3.0 g/l = FIP highly more likely
  - <1.5 g/l = FIP slightly less likely

### Effusion

- **Rivalta’s test**
  - Positive
  - If negative, FIP highly unlikely

- **Cell count and cytology**
  - Low to moderate cellularity, pyogranulomatous inflammation
  - Important to rule out differential diagnoses such as neoplasia or septic effusion

- **Bacterial culture**
  - Negative
  - Important to rule out septic effusion

- **Biochemical analysis**
  - High protein concentration
  - Low A:G ratio
  - A/G ratio:
    - <0.4 = FIP moderately more likely
    - >0.8 = FIP slightly less likely

- **AGP**
  - Moderate to marked elevation
  - >1.5 g/l = FIP moderately more likely

### Cerebrospinal fluid

- **Cell count and cytology**
  - Moderate to marked pleocytosis
  - Neutrophilic, mononuclear, mixed or pyogranulomatous inflammation
  - Potentially helpful to rule out differential diagnoses in cats with neurological signs, but non-specific for FIP
  - CSF analysis can be unremarkable in some cats with FIP

- **Protein concentration**
  - Moderate to marked elevation
  - Potentially helpful to rule out differential diagnoses in cats with neurological signs, but non-specific for FIP
  - CSF analysis can be unremarkable in some cats with FIP

### Aqueous humour

- **Cell count and cytology**
  - Neutrophilic, pyogranulomatous or mixed inflammation
  - Potentially helpful to rule out neoplasia, but often non-specific

### Other

- **Routine diagnostic imaging**
  - Ascites, pleural or pericardial effusion
  - Abdominal lymphadenopathy
  - Structural changes to liver, spleen, kidneys or intestines
  - Evidence of peritonitis
  - Highly useful to locate any effusion
  - Ultrasound-guided sample collection (fine-needle aspiration, TCB) possible

- **Advanced diagnostic imaging**
  - Obstructive hydrocephalus, syringomyelia, foramen magnum herniation or marked meningeal or ependymal contrast enhancement indicating T3-L3 myelopathy, central vestibular syndrome or multifocal CNS disease
  - Helpful in cats with neurological signs
  - Can be unremarkable in some cats with FIP

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*Modified from the European Advisory Board on Cat Diseases (ABCD) ‘FIP diagnosis tool’ and Felten and Hartmann (2019)*

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For more information, visit cavets.com/fip & everycat.org/aafp-fip-guidelines.

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