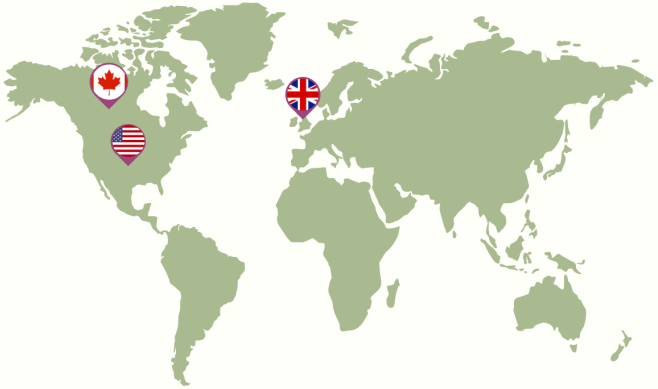
FVE/FECAVA policy recommendations

Firstly, **it is crucial to monitor FIP prevalence** at both national and European levels, particularly in countries experiencing an increase in cases. By closely tracking the spread of the disease, we can better understand its impact and implement timely interventions.

Secondly, FVE and FECAVA strongly advocate for **increased research efforts** to develop effective vaccines against FIP.

Lastly, we urge policymakers to **provide EU veterinarians with a legal option to treat FIP**-affected cats e.g., allowing them to use either Remdesivir or GS-441524. It is essential that owners no longer feel compelled to turn to the illegal market in their desperate search for life-saving treatments for their beloved cats.

Situation in non-EU countries



United Kingdom:
Remdesivir - No supply problems, but its use is restricted to referral practice.
GS-441524 - Compounded and legally available in tablet form.

United States:
Remdesivir - Currently has only emergency use authorisation but once FDA approved, can be used in cats in an off-label manner
GS-441524 - Not approved but trials ongoing

Canada:
Health Canada's Veterinary Drugs Directorate (VDD) approved importing legally compounded versions from the UK. Veterinarians have to request permission to import the drug via an EDR every time they want to use it.

FVE Federation of Veterinarians of Europe

FECAVA Federation of European Companion Animal Veterinary Associations

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) Treatment

Challenges and Opportunities

INTRODUCTION

Feline Infectious Peritonitis (FIP) is caused by a mutation of the commonly seen feline coronavirus (FCoV), presenting a grim prognosis for affected cats.

The real prevalence is largely unknown but likely to be underestimated

Recent groundbreaking research allowed the development of new treatment options which allow successful treatment of this once-lethal condition.

However, most countries have no legal option for the treatment of FIP. This poses a massive dilemma for veterinarians trying to fulfil their professional responsibility.

ACTIONS

- FVE and FECAVA have gathered data from several EU and non-EU countries on FIP treatment availability
- FVE and FECAVA have proactively been advocating for the release of a small quantity of Veklury to veterinarians, in a joint letter to the Heads of Medicines Agency.
- FVE and FECAVA held a very successful webinar to raise awareness of the different antiviral FIP treatments, such as remdesivir and GS-441524

GS-441524

GS-44152 is also a nucleoside analogue and the breakdown product of Remdesivir.
It was shown to be remarkably safe and can be given orally in a treatment plan along with Remdesivir, though an injectable version is available too.

GS-44152 is patented by Gilead Sciences, a company in the US and so is not legally available.

In the UK, compounding is NOT limited to registered products with a market authorisation. Hence, certain manufacturers (BOVA) compound GS-44152 and it is available legally in tablet form.

Its unavailability in other countries has led to a flourishing black market for the drug, raising concerns about its purity and safety.

Remdesivir

The nucleoside analogue Remdesivir (also known as Veklury), authorized by EMA for the treatment of COVID-19, provides hope with several optimistic results reported by research groups.

In many countries, remdesivir sales are restricted to human hospital pharmacies.

Some European countries revealed that the drug is permitted to be used under the cascade but acquiring it is difficult, making it available legally but not practically.