



Spinal Muscular Atrophy in Maine Coon Cats

Spinal muscular atrophy (SMA) in Maine Coon cats is caused by a large deletion in chromosome A1 that eliminates two genes.

SMA is inherited in an autosomal recessive fashion. Affected kittens, having two copies of the deletion, will have inherited a deletion from both parents.

Carriers of the SMA deletion (ie. carrying only one copy) show no signs of the disease. IF two carriers mate then by probability, approximately 25% of kittens will have SMA.

SMA is due to the death of spinal cord nerves that normally stimulate the skeletal muscles of the trunk and limbs. The loss of these nerves can lead to kittens developing a swaying in their gait, particularly in their hind quarters.

Animal DNA Laboratory now offers a simple DNA test to identify the SMA deletion for Maine Coons. A simple cheek swab can be sent to our laboratory to identify whether a cat is either normal, affected or a carrier.

The test can be performed on cats of any age, so long as you can obtain a reliable sample.

**STOP
PRESS!
SMA TEST
IS NOW
AVAILABLE**

TESTS COMING IN 2009

We are pleased to announce that the following tests will be introduced during

- Progressive Retinal Atrophy
- Blood Typing
- Pyruvate Kinase
- Long Hair Genetics

Inside this issue:

SMA IN MAINE COON CATS	1
DNA QUESTION CORNER	2
CUSTOMER FEEDBACK	3
MEMBERS	4

DNA Question Corner—win free tests

Animal DNA Laboratory gives all readers the opportunity to ask questions relating to our services. The best question each issue will win 2 free DNA tests and be published in the Animal DNA Laboratory newsletter. So if you have a question simply send it to:

dnaquestions@animalsdna.com

This quarter's winner is Suzanna from Germany who asked.

"I do not like sending off my credit card details in the post. Is there an alternative way to pay for your testing services?"

Dear Suzanna,

Animal DNA Laboratory can now accept payment via Paypal.

Paypal is an electronic system allowing payments and money transfers to be made through the internet. It enables anyone with an email address to send and receive payments online. As a buyer you can pay for your item, or service online through Paypal without sharing your financial information. You are able to fund your payment with your debit card, credit card, bank account or Paypal balance.

To set up a Paypal account or get further information, go to www.paypal.com

How to make a Paypal Payment

1. Set up a Paypal account on the above website.
2. Indicate you want to pay by Paypal on the order form.
3. When we receive the swabs we will send you an email confirming receipt of your order and prompting you to make the Paypal payment.
4. Pay by Paypal (admin@animalsdna.com) and insert the unique 5 digit number we send you in the email so that we can identify your payment.

Feedback from Animal DNA Laboratory Customers

"Thank you for providing such a great service at an excellent price. When I told friends that I was getting my cat DNA tested to ensure that she was a lilac, they all said "That will cost you a fortune!". I told them about how much I paid for the 2 tests and they were surprised at the low cost"

Thanks again

Susan, Australia

Continued page 3

**PAYPAL
PAYMENTS ARE
NOW
AVAILABLE!**

**ASK US HOW TO
MAKE A PAYPAL
PAYMENT.**

**We will be
continuously
adding new
tests so feel
free to keep up
to date with
our progress by
visiting our
website.**

Feedback from ADL Customers continued.

“Thank you that was very quick :-) A very pleasant first time experience for me all round! I will be telling my friends about your service”

Jody, New Zealand

“Thanks so much for such great results !!

You will be hearing from me again I am sure....I like all my breeding cats to have their own copies of documents and we do change over our breeding stock very quickly - so I'll be around again !! :)”

Warm wishes

Lou, USA

“Thank you very very much for getting the results back so quickly. I really appreciate it, your company's service is fantastic and I will be using your company again and recommending you to everyone”

Thanks

Sheryn, Australia

“Thank you very much
the results came quickly!

it's great! you are very professional
see you”

Catherine, France

**PO Box 13319
William Street
Melbourne Vic 8010
AUSTRALIA**

**Phone:
+613 9513 6792**

**Fax:
+613 9670 5822**

**E-mail:
contact@animalsdna.com**

Please see some of the clubs, associations, breeders and societies overleaf that have registered with Animal DNA Laboratory which allows their members to receive 10% off the price of tests!

Visit our website to see a complete list of organizations registered with us. You too could be entitled to receive a 10% discount!

Ask us how!

contact@animalsdna.com

Important if you are a breeder with an active website, you are also eligible to register with Animal DNA Laboratory to receive a 10% discount off the price of all tests!

Some of the Associations, Clubs, Societies and Professional Breeders currently registered with Animal DNA Laboratory.

Agacoon Cattery	Cattery Boyars Exotics & Persians	Kinnley Cattery
Amacoon Association Brasil	Cercle Felin Languedoc Roussillon	Kiwimagic Loveable Ragdolls
Argonath Cattery	Cinnamon and Mon Grand Amour Catteries	Little Miracles Ragdolls
Ashaneeka Persians	Colourpoint Cat Club	Migatobonito Maine Coons & Devon
Asian Group Cat Society	Council of Federated Cat Clubs of Queensland	Merindalee Abyssinians
Aurorapetz	Dream Cats Club	Mission Hill Persians
Australian Cat Federation	Exotic Snowbobs	Nederlandse LanghaarKatten Vereniging
Axis Star Maine Coon Cattery	Exotic directory	New Zealand Cat Fancy Inc
Basic Organization of Cat Breeders Trutnov	Fayola Maine Coons	Of Dromlings-paradise, British Shorthair
Baunty Kitty	Feanor Persians	Rascal Maine Coons
Beautiful Kittens	Feline Cat Council of Victoria	Rasclub Maine Coon
BKH of Swansea	German Angora Cat Club eV	Richmaure Persians
Bobkatin Ragdolls	Gold Coast Cat Club	Riverina Cat Club
Bombay Breed Club	Governing Council of the Cat Fancy of South Australia	Rubydolls Cattery
Britisch Kurzhaar Katzenzucht-Britenzwerge	Governing Council of the Cat Fancy of Australia and Victoria	Satinova Ragdolls
Cat Authority of Victoria	Grand Canyon Feline Fanciers	Sempre Ragdolls
Cat Fanciers Club Selena	Guysndolls Ragdolls	Shorthair Cat Society
Cat Owners Association of Western Australia	Himalayan Cats of Australia	Siamese and Shorthair Cat Club
Cats Incorporated	Ivory Ragdolls	Sophisticats
CaBojs Ragdoll & Maine Coon	Kennel Club of Leskovac	Sphynx Cat Association
Capital Cats		The Feline Association of NSW
		The Persian Lovers
		Warratah National Cat Alliance