



## Instructions for The Treatment of *Bartonella* Infected Cats

Your cat has tested positive for infection with the bacteria *Bartonella*, by the FeBart® Test, at the National Veterinary Laboratory. *Bartonella* are spread from cat to cat by fleas and can cause inflammatory diseases in many sites (mouth, eyes, respiratory tract and major organ) in infected cats. This is also a zoonotic infection, meaning the bacteria can be transmitted from cats to humans via scratches, bites and even mere contact. In infected people, *Bartonella* can cause cat scratch disease and more severe diseases in various organs (for more information on *Bartonella* diseases of cats and people, see the National Veterinary Laboratory's website [www.natvetlab.com](http://www.natvetlab.com)).

We will prescribe antibiotics for your pet to treat this infection. **Someone other than** an immunosuppressed person (i.e. a person immunosuppressed who was or is being treated for cancer, a person with a transplant, and a person infected with the AIDS virus, etc.) in your household should treat this cat. Young children should avoid contact with the cat for the first 2 weeks of therapy. The antibiotic will be given for [redacted] days. Six months after the end of therapy, your pet can be retested by the *Bartonella* Therapy Titration Test to ensure that the infection has been eliminated. There is an 88% cure rate after the initial antibiotic treatment. The Therapy Titration Test will determine if your pet has been successfully treated for *Bartonella* or if your pet needs a second course of antibiotics. In order to prevent re-infection, flea prevention is necessary.



### Recommendations:

1. We recommend that you test any other cats in your household for *Bartonella*.
2. Institute flea prevention as prescribed.
3. We recommend the Therapy Titration Test, to check for the effectiveness of therapy, after the following date: [redacted]