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**INSTRUCTIONS FOR COLLECTING BUCCAL CELLS FOR FIP RESEARCH**

1. Complete the FIP questionnaire form to list your sample submissions for the three study groups.
2. Sample one cat at a time. If samples are to be collected from several cats in the same session, complete steps 1 - 7 for one cat before sampling the next.
3. Label EACH envelope containing swabs with the following:
  - The date the swabs were taken
  - The cat's name
  - The cat's registration number if available or other identification
  - Which study group the samples are for:
    - Group 1 – Cats affected by FIP
    - Group 2 – Relatives to cats affected by FIP
    - Group 3 – Cats from bloodlines **with absolutely no history of FIP.**
4. Use double ended cotton swabs or cytological brushes for each cat. Place swab head against the inside of the cheek and gums, swirl vigorously 8 – 10 times. Use both ends of the cotton swabs.
5. Wave cotton swab or brush in the air or set aside in dry place until thoroughly dried.
6. Try to collect 3 – 4 swabs per cat.
7. Place swabs into the labeled paper envelope and seal. ***Do not wrap swabs in plastic wrap or seal in plastic bag.***
8. Place all samples, submission form, identification information (pedigrees) and any other related reports or test results into one larger envelope and send to Niels Pedersen at U. C. Davis.

*(NOTE: if you have blood, tissue or feces samples to forward, please contact Dr. Pedersen regarding the best method for sending those samples.)*