

Feline Breed Specific Anesthesia Needs

There are no breed specific contraindications¹ for any of the domestic cat breeds. There are however certain medical conditions known to occur in certain breeds and these conditions do warrant a modification to an anesthesia protocol in order to reduce the risk of adverse anesthesia related effects. Here is a partial list of such medical conditions:

Maine coon cat

Maine Coon cats have a higher than normal incidence of heart disease even in young adults. The presence or absence of heart disease can be determined through careful listening to the patients chest/heart sounds as well as by cardiac ultrasound imaging which can be conceived of as a movie showing the beating heart.

Persian Cat

Persian cats have a higher than normal incidence of polycystic kidneys. The presence or absence of polycystic kidney disease can be determined through a complete physical examination that includes palpation of the kidneys in the patient's abdomen, a urine analysis and comprehensive blood screening. Cats with polycystic kidney disease are often underweight.

¹ A contraindication is a condition that increases the risk of using a particular drug.