



Research to **protect, treat and cure** animals.

## Successes for Cats

### Genetics

*"Development of a Detailed Feline Gene Map for Disease Gene Discovery"*  
D06FE-063, Texas A&M University, Dr. William J. Murphy

### **Results: Scientists Successfully Map Feline Genetic Markers**

Genetic mutations cause several hundred feline diseases. For both humans and dogs, a well-established genome map is being used to identify the genes that cause specific diseases, but only a handful of genetic mutations have been linked to diseases of cats in the current feline gene map. A higher-density (more detailed) map of genetic markers is needed to study feline genetic diseases and disorders. In this two-year study, researchers from Texas A&M University successfully mapped nearly 2,800 genetic markers, which will aid in the assembly of the feline genome sequence that is anticipated to be completed later this year. Adding these markers to the feline gene map will close the gap in the cat-human-dog comparison map and allow researchers to identify the genetic bases of feline disease, physical characteristics and behavior.