# Burmese GM2 Gangliosidosis

## About the Disease

Burmese GM2 gangliosidosis is a fatal, neurological lysosomal storage disease that is caused by a mutation (15 base pair deletion) in the β-subunit of the feline *hexosaminadase (HEXB)* gene.

Affected kittens typically show mild tremors and lack of coordination beginning at 6 to 8 weeks of age. The disease is autosomal recessive, meaning that two copies of the mutant gene are required for disease.

## Interpretation of results

A **Normal** Burmese GM2 genetic test result means that the cat does not have the known genetic mutation causing Burmese GM2 gangliosidosis.

A **Carrier** Burmese GM2 genetic test result means that the cat has one copy of the Burmese GM2 mutation. The cat will not have Burmese GM2 gangliosidosis, but may pass the mutation to their offspring.

An **Affected** Burmese GM2 genetic test result means that the cat has two copies of the Burmese GM2 mutation. The cat will have Burmese GM2 gangliosidosis.

Each certificate we issue will specify whether the cat is Normal, Carrier or Affected for the known Burmese GM2 gangliosidosis mutation.