



Leslie Lyons is the Gilbreath McLorn Endowed Professor of Comparative Medicine at the University of Missouri, College of Veterinary Medicine. She received her education from the University of Pittsburgh in human genetics. Her career has focused on comparative gene mapping across mammalian species with emphasis in the domestic cat. Her laboratory has identified over 30 cat mutations within 25 genes, including 21 diseases, cat AB/B blood type (2),

and, recently, 2 diseases in wild felids. She launched the 99 Lives Cat Genome Sequencing Initiative, an effort to have deep coverage on cats with inherited diseases and as a SNP resource for the community. Her research continues in domestic cat diseases and traits, population genetics of domestic cats, and cat genetic applications in forensic sciences.