



## KEEPING YOUR PETS HEALTHY IN COVID-19



### COVID AND ANIMALS

We are still learning about the virus that causes COVID-19, but it appears that it can spread from people to animals in some situations.

Some pets, including cats and dogs, have tested positive for the virus that causes COVID-19, usually after close contact with people who have COVID-19.

Infected pets might get sick but most only have mild illness and fully recover. Many infected pets do not have any symptoms.

There is currently no evidence that pets are a source of COVID-19 infection to people.



### IF YOU HAVE COVID-19 OR YOU HAVE BEEN EXPOSED TO COVID-19

Treat pets like you would any other member of your household to protect them from possible infection.

- Have **another household member** care for your pet.
- Keep pets **indoors**, if possible, and don't allow your pet to roam freely.

### IF YOU HAVE TO CARE FOR YOUR PET

- **Avoid close contact** with them (cuddling, kissing, sleeping in the same bed, etc.).
- **Wear a mask** around them.
- **Wash your hands** before and after caring for them or **touching their items** (food, bowls, toys, etc.).

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## IF YOUR PET HAS SYMPTOMS

Symptoms in pets include coughing, sneezing, lethargy, difficulty breathing, fever, nose or eye discharge, vomiting, and/or diarrhea.

These symptoms are usually caused by **infections that are not COVID-19**, but if your animal appears sick:

- Call the **veterinarian**.
- Keep them **away from other animals**.

Always contact the veterinarian **before** bringing your animal to the clinic, even if you are currently healthy.

## REMEMBER

The COVID-19 vaccine reduces the spread of COVID-19 and protects yourself and other household members, including your pets. Get vaccinated when it is your turn.

Animals can spread other infections to people, so remember to wash your hands regularly when handling them and avoid contact with wildlife.



*Developed resources reported in this publication are supported by the National Library of Medicine (NLM), National Institutes of Health (NIH) under cooperative agreement number UG4LMO12343 with University of Washington. The content is solely the responsibility of the authors and does not necessarily represent the official views of the National Institutes of Health.*