Can dogs get the new coronavirus (COVID-19)?

The World Health Organization currently advises that there is no evidence to suggest that dogs or cats can be infected with the new coronavirus.

If I am diagnosed with COVID-19, how do I protect my pet?

Since your pet is at almost no risk of COVID-19 infection there are no specific steps needed to protect them from infection.

However, pets can have the virus ON THEM if they are in an environment with a large quantity of the virus and could serve to be a source of the virus for other people, including family members. Therefore, to protect other people and yourself, the CDC recommends that you restrict contact with pets if you are sick with COVID-19, just as you would restrict your contact with other people.

Is there a COVID-19 vaccine for dogs and cats?

There is no vaccine for COVID-19 for people or animals at this time.

Many dogs, for example, are vaccinated for another species of coronavirus. Canine coronavirus (CCoV) is not the same virus as SARS-CoV-2 that causes the novel coronavirus (COVID-19). CCoV does not affect people. CCoV causes gastrointestinal problems in dogs, as opposed to respiratory disease.

Although pets cannot become sick from COVID-19, could they serve as a conduit of infection between people?

Veterinary experts believe the risk for transmission would be low.

Nevertheless, animals living with sick individuals should be kept away from other people and animals (quarantined at home), just as people who live with sick individuals must avoid contact with others.

Don't abandon your pets because of coronavirus fear!



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