

Information received on 03/04/2020 from Dr Thomas Sit, Chief Veterinary Officer / Assistant Director (Inspection & Quarantine), Agriculture, Fisheries and Conservation Department, Hong Kong Special Administrative Region Government, Hong Kong , Hong Kong (SAR - PRC)

Summary

Report type	Immediate notification
Date of start of the event	30/03/2020
Date of confirmation of the event	31/03/2020
Report date	03/04/2020
Date submitted to OIE	03/04/2020
Date event resolved	19/04/2020
Reason for notification	Emerging disease
Morbidity	1 (scale 0 to 5)
Mortality	0 (scale 0 to 5)
Zoonotic impact	Zoonotic potential unknown at this time
Causal agent	SARS-CoV-2
Related reports	Immediate notification (03/04/2020) Follow-up report No. 1 (04/05/2020)

New outbreaks (1)

Outbreak 1	Aberdeen, Southern District, Hong Kong					
Date of start of the outbreak	30/03/2020					
Outbreak status	Resolved (19/04/2020)					
Epidemiological unit	Other					
Affected animals	Species	Susceptible	Cases	Deaths	Killed and disposed of	Slaughtered
	Cats	1	1	0	0	0
Affected population	A cat kept in the same household as a confirmed COVID-19 patient. The animal did not show any relevant clinical signs					

Summary of outbreaks	Total outbreaks: 1					
Total animals affected	Species	Susceptible	Cases	Deaths	Killed and disposed of	Slaughtered
	Cats	1	1	0	0	0
Outbreak statistics	Species	Apparent morbidity rate	Apparent mortality rate	Apparent case fatality rate	Proportion susceptible animals lost*	
	Cats	100.00%	0.00%	0.00%	0.00%	

*Removed from the susceptible population through death, destruction and/or slaughter

Epidemiology

Source of the outbreak(s) or origin of infection	Likely human to animal transmission
Epidemiological comments	The cat was placed under quarantine on 30 March 2020 after its owner was hospitalised due to COVID-19 infection. Following veterinary examination nasal, oral, and rectal swab samples were taken after the cat's admission to the quarantine facility. All samples tested positive for SARS-CoV-2. The cat has not exhibited any specific clinical signs. Follow up oral and nasal swab samples taken on 1 April continued to test positive. Investigations are continuing to determine the duration of virus detection. Risk management measures are in place for this case, including cleansing and disinfection of the premises, and proper personal hygiene and protection. Mammalian pets from households with confirmed human cases of COVID-19 will be placed under quarantine and veterinary surveillance for 14 days. Samples will be collected for testing of SARS-CoV-2 as appropriate.

Control measures

Measures applied	Screening Traceability Quarantine Disinfection Vaccination permitted (if a vaccine exists) No treatment of affected animals
Measures to be applied	No other measures

Diagnostic test results

Laboratory name and type	Species	Test	Test date	Result
Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory, Agriculture Fisheries and Conservation Department (National laboratory)	Cats	real-time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR)	31/03/2020	Positive
Tai Lung Veterinary Laboratory, Agriculture Fisheries and Conservation Department (National laboratory)	Cats	real-time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR)	03/04/2020	Positive
School of Public Health, The University of Hong Kong (Regional Reference Laboratory)	Cats	real-time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR)	31/03/2020	Positive
School of Public Health, The University of Hong Kong (Regional Reference Laboratory)	Cats	real-time reverse transcriptase/polymerase chain reaction (RRT-PCR)	03/04/2020	Positive

Future Reporting

The event is continuing. Weekly follow-up reports will be submitted.

Map of outbreak locations

