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Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (506): Argentina (BA, SE) animal, cat, dog, OIE

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CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (506): ARGENTINA (BUENOS AIRES, SANTIAGO DEL ESTERO) ANIMAL, CAT, DOG, OIE

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A ProMED-mail post

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ProMED-mail is a program of the

International Society for Infectious Diseases

<http://www.isid.org>

Date: Wed 25 Nov 2020

Source: OIE, WAHIS [edited]

[https://www.oie.int/wahis\\_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page\\_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=36560](https://www.oie.int/wahis_2/public/wahid.php/Reviewreport/Review?page_refer=MapFullEventReport&reportid=36560)

SARS-CoV-2/COVID-19, Argentina

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Information received on [and dated] 18 Nov 2020 from from Dra. Ximena Melon, Directora Nacional de Sanidad Animal, Servicio Nacional de Sanidad y Calidad Agroalimentaria (SENASA), Ministerio de Agricultura; Ganaderia y Pesca, Ciudad Autonoma de Buenos Aires, Argentina

#### Summary

Report type: immediate notification (final report)

Date of start of the event: 1 Sep 2020

Date of confirmation of the event: 6 Sep 2020

Date event resolved: 16 Nov 2020

Reason for notification: emerging disease

Morbidity: 1 (scale 0 to 5)

Mortality: 0 (scale 0 to 5)

Zoonotic impact: zoonotic potential currently unknown

Causal agent: SARS-CoV-2

Serotype: other

#### New outbreaks (4)

Outbreak location 1: La Plata, Buenos Aires

Date of start of the outbreak: 1 Sep 2020

Outbreak status: resolved 16 Nov 2020

Epidemiological unit: other

Affected animals:

Species / Susceptible / Cases / Deaths / Killed and disposed of / Slaughtered

Cats / 1 / 1 / 0 / 0 / 0

Affected population: Feline living with a person with a confirmed diagnosis of COVID-19, analysed as part of research carried out within projects funded by the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development and Innovation, under the aegis of the MINCyT-Agencia-CONICET Coronavirus Unit. This project carries out the diagnosis of pets living with people affected with COVID-19. These samples were particularly analysed by the Faculty of Veterinary Sciences of the National University of La Plata.

Outbreak location 2: City of Santiago del Estero. House 2, Capital, Santiago Del Estero

Date of start of the outbreak: 9 Oct 2020

Outbreak status: resolved 16 Nov 2020

Epidemiological unit: other

Affected animals:

Species / Susceptible / Cases / Deaths / Killed and disposed of / Slaughtered

Dogs / 3 / 1 / 0 / 0 / 0

Affected population: These samples were taken as part of research conducted within projects funded by the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development and Innovation, under the aegis of the Coronavirus Unit of MINCyT-Agencia-CONICET. This project carries out the diagnosis of pets living with people affected by COVID 19. These samples were particularly analysed by the Centre for Molecular and Metabolic Analysis, the provincial reference laboratory for respiratory viruses and COVID-19 of the Ministry of Health in Santiago del Estero. Samples were taken from animals in 3 houses in the provincial capital where people were diagnosed positive for COVID-19. The outbreaks are not linked to each other. House 2: one dog positive to SARS-CoV-2 detection living with 2 other dogs.

Outbreak location 3: City of Santiago del Estero. House 3, Capital, Santiago Del Estero

Date of start of the outbreak: 9 Oct 2020

Outbreak status: Resolved 16 Nov 2020

Epidemiological unit: other

Affected animals:

Species / Susceptible / Cases / Deaths / Killed and disposed of / Slaughtered

Dogs / 1 / 1 / 0 / 1 / 0

Affected population: These samples were taken as part of research conducted within projects funded by the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development and Innovation, under the aegis of the Coronavirus Unit of MINCyT-Agencia-CONICET. This project carries out the diagnosis of pets living with people affected by COVID-19. These samples were particularly analysed by the Centre for Molecular and Metabolic Analysis, the provincial reference laboratory for respiratory viruses and COVID-19 of the Ministry of Health in Santiago del Estero. Samples were taken from animals in 3 houses in the provincial capital where people were diagnosed positive for COVID-19. The outbreaks are not linked to each other. House 3: one dog positive to SARS-CoV-2 detection. The positive dog of house 3 was euthanized upon decision of the owners, making it impossible to follow up this case.

Outbreak location 4: City of Santiago del Estero. House 1, Capital, Santiago del Estero

Date of start of the outbreak: 9 Oct 2020

Outbreak status: resolved 16 Nov 2020

Epidemiological unit: other

Affected animals:

Species / Susceptible / Cases / Deaths / Killed and disposed of / Slaughtered

Dogs / 8 / 2 / 0 / 0 / 1

Cats / 3 / 1 / 0 / 0 / 0

Affected population: These samples were taken as part of research conducted within projects funded by the National Agency for the Promotion of Research, Technological Development and Innovation, under the aegis of the Coronavirus Unit of MINCyT-Agencia-Conicet. This project carries out the diagnosis of pets living with people affected by COVID-19. These samples were particularly analysed by the Centre for Molecular and Metabolic Analysis, the provincial reference laboratory for respiratory

viruses and COVID-19 of the Ministry of Health in Santiago del Estero. Samples were taken from animals in 3 houses in the provincial capital where people were diagnosed positive for COVID-19. The outbreaks are not linked to each other. House 1: 2 dogs and one cat positive to SARS-CoV-2 detection of the 11 animals living together (8 dogs and 3 cats).

Total outbreaks: 4

Total affected animals:

Species / Susceptible / Cases / Deaths / Killed and disposed of / Slaughtered

Cats / 4 / 2 / 0 / 0 / 0

Dogs / 12 / 4 / 0 / 1 / 1

Outbreak statistics [rates apparent, expressed as percentages]

Species / Morbidity rate / Mortality rate / Case fatality rate / Proportion susceptible animals lost\*

Cats / 50 / 0 / 0 / 0

Dogs / 33.33 / 0 / 0 / 16.67

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

#### Epidemiology

Source of the outbreak(s) or origin of infection: Probably contact with human case

Epidemiological comments: Oropharyngeal and rectal swabs were taken, and serum was collected. Of the 7 animals tested, 6 were positive for SARS-CoV-2 using the qRT-PCR test for the ORF, RdRP, E, and N genes using the commercial kit GeneFinder COVID-19 PLUSRealAmp Kit, which amplifies the genomic regions corresponding to the E, RdRP, and N genes using BioRad's CFX-96 Real Time thermocycler equipment. Three animals showed symptoms: a cat from Santiago del Estero (weakening and anorexia for 12-24 hours), a cat from La Plata (sneezing and nasal secretions), and one of the dogs from Santiago del Estero (conjunctivitis, cough, dyspnea, and weakening). The rest of the animals were asymptomatic.

#### Control measures

Measures applied: disinfection/disinfestation; quarantine; 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

Centre for Molecular and Metabolic Analysis, Provincial Reference Laboratory for Respiratory Viruses and COVID-19, Ministry of Health, Santiago del Estero (local laboratory) / cats / reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) / 13 Oct 2020 / positive

Centre for Molecular and Metabolic Analysis, Provincial Reference Laboratory for Respiratory Viruses and COVID-19, Ministry of Health, Santiago del Estero (local laboratory) / dogs / reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) / 13 Oct 2020 / positive

Faculty of Veterinary Sciences of the National University of La Plata (local laboratory) / cats / reverse transcription-polymerase chain reaction (RT-PCR) / 6 Sep 2020 / positive

#### Future reporting

The event is resolved. No more reports will be submitted.

[The location of the outbreaks can be seen on the interactive map included in the OIE report at the source URL above.]

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[“Public Health and Veterinary Services should work together using a One Health approach to share information and conduct a

risk assessment when a person who is infected with SARS-CoV-2 reports being in contact with companion or other animals.

"If a decision is made, as a result of a risk assessment, to test a companion animal which has had close contact with a person/owner infected with SARS-CoV-2, it is recommended that RT-PCR be used to test oral, nasal, and/or fecal/rectal samples. Care should be taken to avoid contamination of specimens from the environment or by humans.

"Animals that test positive for SARS-CoV-2 should be kept away from unexposed susceptible animals and contact with those animals should be avoided."

Source: OIE COVID-19 portal: <https://tinyurl.com/v3geqme>

All events in animals reported to the OIE are available at <https://tinyurl.com/y523mu7b>. - Mod.CRD

HealthMap/ProMED-mail maps:

Santiago del Estero, Argentina: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post?place=7972283,56607>

La Plata, Buenos Aires, Argentina: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post?place=7972283,5675>

## See Also

COVID-19 update (503): animal, France, mink, 1st rep 20201123.7965554  
COVID-19 update (501): Denmark, Netherlands, mink, human- animal interface 20201122.7963766  
COVID-19 update (498): Denmark, animal, mink, zoonotic 20201120.7959431  
COVID-19 update (495): animal, cat, transmission model 20201119.7954363  
COVID-19 update (490): animal, Greece (EM) mink, 1st report, OIE, assessment  
COVID-19 update (463): Brazil (MT) animal, cat, OIE 20201031.7905784  
COVID-19 update (452): Chile (RM) animal, cat, OIE 20201023.7885452  
COVID-19 update (350): USA (TX) animal, cat 20200808.7658191  
COVID-19 update (345): animal, cat, research, experimental infection 20200805.7648370  
COVID-19 update (334): animal, Netherlands, mink, spread, UK, cat, 1st rep, OIE 20200727.7617582  
COVID-19 update (330): China (Hong Kong) animal, cat, OIE 20200724.7609215  
COVID-19 update (267): animal, domestic, wild, cat, research 20200617.7480013  
COVID-19 update (248): Netherlands (NB, LI) animal, mink, spread, culling, cat 20200609.7446478  
COVID-19 update (238): USA (MN) animal, cat 20200605.7429133  
COVID-19 update (227): animal, cat, dog, research, experimental infection 20200601.7416648  
COVID-19 update (212): Russia (Moskva) animal, cat, OIE 20200526.7379578  
COVID-19 update (209): Netherlands (NB) farmed mink, animal-to-human, cat, epid 20200525.7375359  
COVID-19 update (189): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, research, cat, dog 20200517.7344274  
COVID-19 update (183): Japan/USA, animal, research, cat, experimental infection 20200514.7337185  
COVID-19 update (181): Germany (BY), France (AC), cat, OIE animal case defin. 20200513.7332909  
COVID-19 update (177): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, Spain (CT) cat susp 20200512.7328587  
COVID-19 update (166): China (Hong Kong) animal, cat, OIE, resolved 20200508.7314521  
COVID-19 update (149): France (IF) animal, cat, owned 20200501.7289409  
COVID-19 update (124): USA (NY) animal, cat, lion, OIE 20200423.7259119  
COVID-19 update (123): USA (NY) animal, cat, conf. 20200422.7256272  
COVID-19 update (113): USA (NY) animal, cat, susp, RFI 20200418.7240811  
COVID-19 update (75): China (Hong Kong) animal cat, OIE 20200403.7179945  
COVID-19 update (70): China (Hong Kong) animal, cat, pets & stock 20200402.7173286  
COVID-19 update (58): Belgium, animal, cat, clinical case, RFI 20200327.7151215  
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