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Subject: PRO/AH/EDR> COVID-19 update (389): animal, UK, dog

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CORONAVIRUS DISEASE 2019 UPDATE (389): ANIMAL, UNITED KINGDOM, DOG

A ProMED-mail post

<http://www.promedmail.org>

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<http://www.isid.org>

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Source: BBC News [abridged, edited]

<https://www.bbc.com/news/health-59246304>

A dog has tested positive for COVID officials have confirmed. They believe the pet, who is recovering at home, caught it from its owner. The UK Health Security Agency (UKHSA) says cases like this are extremely rare and there is no strong evidence to suggest that dogs, cats or other pets are passing on the virus to humans.

Owners and people who work with animals should wash their hands regularly though for good hygiene. Animal fur can act as a carrier for the COVID-19 virus for short periods of time, in the same way as other surfaces, such as door handles, says the advice. Do not share food, food bowls or utensils with your pet.

The UK's Chief Veterinary Officer Christine Middlemiss said: "The infected dog was undergoing treatment for another unrelated condition and is now recovering. It is very rare for dogs to be infected, and they will usually only show mild clinical signs, and recover within a few days. There is no clear evidence to suggest that pets directly transmit the virus to humans. We will continue to monitor this situation closely and will update our guidance to pet owners should the situation change."

If you're concerned about your pet because it has respiratory or digestive problems and a temperature, you should contact your vet who will decide if it needs a COVID test. And if you are self-isolating because of COVID, do not kiss or cuddle your pet or let them sleep in your bed.

But do think about arranging for someone else who is not self-isolating to care for your animals. If there is no-one to help but you need assistance, you should contact your vet.

COVID spreads from person to person through small droplets, aerosols and through direct contact. Surfaces and belongings can also be contaminated when people with the infection cough or sneeze or touch them.

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[A previous case of a dog infected from its owner was reported by the UK authorities to the OIE on 24 Aug 2021; see posting 20210825.8621632.

COVID-19 infection in dogs is, in most cases, subclinical or presents mild, refractory respiratory signs. No dog-to-human infections have, so far, been reported. Infected cats may present clearer signs, but -- similarly -- no cat-to-human infection has been reported since the start of the pandemic.

According to evidence from experimental infection trials, SARS-CoV-2 replicates poorly in dogs, in difference with cats; cat-to-cat infection has been recorded. However, the situation may undergo changes with SARS-CoV-2 mutants (see 20211110.8699586). Dog owners and veterinarians must be vigilant for canine COVID-19 when dogs are presented with respiratory clinical signs.

More information about the SARS-CoV-2 infections in animals which have been duly reported by countries to the OIE (in the status of an "emerging disease"), including a table presenting the events, can be found in the OIE COVID-19 portal, section "Event in animals," available at <https://www.oie.int/en/what-we-offer/emergency-and-resilience/covid-19/> (last updated 12 Oct 2021). - Mod.AS

HealthMap/ProMED map:

United Kingdom: <https://promedmail.org/promed-post?place=8699640,40>

See Also

COVID-19 update (384): animal, France, variant B.1.160, dog, clinical, research 20211110.8699586

COVID-19 update (379): animal, UK, cat, dog, heart disease 20211107.8699496

COVID-19 update (342): animal, Myanmar, dog, OIE 20211009.8698934

COVID-19 update (292): animal, UK, dog, OIE 20210825.8621632

COVID-19 update (187): animal, Uruguay, dog, cat, OIE 20210529.8404030

COVID-19 update (174): animal, Thailand, dog, OIE 20210518.8368402

COVID-19 update (152): animal, Croatia, dog, OIE 20210429.8336058

COVID-19 update (109): animal, Argentina, Italy, cat, dog, OIE 20210323.8262789

COVID-19 update (57): animal China (Hong Kong) dog, OIE 20210210.8182259

COVID-19 update (49): animal, Bosnia & Herzegovina (SA) dog, OIE 20210205.8165920
2020

COVID-19 update (552): USA, animal, cat, dog, snow leopard, OIE 20201223.8042405

COVID-19 update (516): China (Hong Kong) animal, dog, Lithuania, mink, OIE 20201203.7986508

COVID-19 update (506): Argentina (BA, SE) animal, cat, dog, OIE 20201125.7972283

COVID-19 update (485): animal, Italy, dog 20201111.7934864

COVID-19 update (448): animal, raccoon dog, research, experimental infection 20201022.7880283

COVID-19 update (417): Japan (TK) animal, dog, OIE 20200927.7817541

COVID-19 update (364): USA (NC,NY) animal, dog, comment 20200818.7689234

COVID-19 update (360): USA (NC, NY) animal, dog, comment 20200815.7681907

COVID-19 update (355): USA (NC) animal, dog 20200813.7672505

COVID-19 update (346): USA (LA) animal, dog, conf 20200805.7648734

COVID-19 update (322): USA (SC) animal, dog 20200719.7588843
COVID-19 update (308): USA (TX) animal, dog conf. 20200708.7554832
COVID-19 update (299): USA (GA) animal, dog conf 20200703.7535112
COVID-19 update (284): Denmark (ND) animal, farmed mink, spread, dog 20200624.7506728
COVID-19 update (231): USA (NY) animal, dog conf. 20200602.7420541
COVID-19 update (227): animal, cat, dog, research, experimental infection 20200601.7416648
COVID-19 update (189): Netherlands (NB) animal, farmed mink, research, cat, dog 20200517.7344274
COVID-19 update (56): China (Hong Kong) animal, dog, final serology positive 20200326.7146438
COVID-19 update (50): China (Hong Kong) animal, dog, 2nd case PCR positive, OIE 20200323.7129951
COVID-19 update (45): China (Hong Kong) animal, dog, 2nd case PCR positive 20200319.7112693
COVID-19 update (37): China (Hong Kong) animal, dog, prelim. serology negative 20200312.7081842
COVID-19 update (30): China (Hong Kong) animal, dog, susp, serology pending 20200306.7057595
COVID-19 update (25): China (Hong Kong) dog, susp, OIE 20200302.7040373
COVID-19 update (22): companion animal, dog susp, RFI 20200229.7036661
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