



## Coronavirus and Animals – Science Update from JDPC



### **News from the Centers for Disease Control – Issued 4/28/2020**

#### **DOGS Can Get Coronavirus + New CDC Social Distancing Recommendations for Pets**

Last week we shared the news that cats have contracted coronavirus from Covid-positive humans. Today we are sharing with you that **dogs have picked it up from humans, too**. Please read the links below for more details.

The positive news is that the dogs and cats reported to have contracted Covid-19 in the US appear to have shown milder symptoms than humans and seem to recover. But I think it is important to note that much is unknown about this virus, including its ultimate impact on our pets.

One thing science has been pretty clear on: there is no evidence that our pets can pass the virus to humans via sneezing, coughing, slobbering (:>), or other forms of shedding pathogens. However, if the virus is on their fur or collar or leash that has been touched by a person with Covid-19 (who could be asymptomatic), it could be passed on through surface transmission....just like touching anything could.

That's why it's especially important to listen to the **CDC's new guidance on social distancing for pets**. A link to this article is also included below. **The CDC is saying to keep your pets at home so they cannot be accidental transmitters from people touching them. Secondly, they are saying that a pet could come down with coronavirus themselves by being around people. So the STAY AT HOME recommendation/order/suggestion (what are we calling it now?) applies to our pets, too, for some very important reasons!!**

Here are two articles about the pug in North Carolina, who is believed to be the first dog in the US to test positive for coronavirus:

<https://www.cnn.com/2020/04/28/us/coronavirus-us-pug-wellness-trnd/index.html>

<https://www.nbcnews.com/news/animal-news/pug-north-carolina-tests-positive-coronavirus-may-be-first-dog-n1194096>

Here is a new article on recommendations from the CDC on social distancing for pets:

<https://www.startribune.com/cdc-says-pets-should-social-distance/570012592/>

**Please pass this on to anyone and everyone you can think of who owns a pet or knows someone who owns a pet (granddogs or grandcats, anyone?). We need to keep each other informed for the sake of our furry loved ones and ourselves.**

We love you! We love your dogs! We will see you soon!

Keep the faith,

Carol and Brad and the whole JDPC Team