



## As pet owners, Should we be afraid of Covid-19?

We would like to answer most frequently asked questions by pet owners to clarify the uncertainties regarding Covid-19.

- Is Corona (Covid-19) transmitted to human from cats and dogs?
  - **NO.** There are no records anywhere in the world so far
- Can cats and dogs get infected with Covid-19?
  - Very rare. Only a few cases are reported in few countries. It is **negligible.**
- If a pet is sick with respiratory signs, do we have to worry?
  - Animals get respiratory signs due to many other diseases. Consult your veterinarian for advice and treatment.
- Do we have to worry about stray dogs spreading the disease?
  - **NO.** The handful of cases reported in few other countries were pets which were closely associated with human patients affected with Covid-19. No need to be afraid of stray dogs in your area as a source of infection.
- Do we need to test our pets?
  - **No.** There is no indication unless you are a Covid-19 patient.
- Do we test pet animals for Covid-19 disease in veterinary clinics/hospitals?
  - **No.** Even human samples are tested only in special authorized laboratories. Please do not request your veterinary doctor to test your pets. It is not indicated at this moment anywhere in the world.
- Do we have to be afraid of keeping pets during this period?
  - **No.** Treat them and look after them well as you used to do.
- What are the special practices we should follow?
  - Follow general guidelines issued to public by health authorities. Since human Covid-19 cases are spreading, protect your animals. Wash your hands before and after handling pets. Avoid being licked or kissing and snuggling them. Keep them comfortable providing sufficient food and exercise. Do not keep your pets closer to the other people as much as possible.