Coronavirus in Canines FAQ

First off… What is Coronavirus?

Coronavirus is not just one type of virus. It is a large group of viruses that can infect humans or animals causing respiratory or GI infections. They are not all serious. Their effects cause illness ranging from the common cold to more severe sickness in immunocompromised humans.

How does the COVID-19 Coronavirus affect my dog?

As of right now, there are confirmed cases of the COVID-19 virus in the state of Hawai’i in humans. As of now, the Centers for Disease Control says this virus seems to have emerged originally from an animal source, however it is now spreading from person-to-person. There is no reason to think that any pets in the United States might be a source of infection or be sick with this new coronavirus. However, this is a fluid situation and can change. The CDC recommends as a precaution that if you get sick with COVID-19, avoid contact with your pet, including petting, snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food. A canine in Hong Kong recently tested a weak positive for COVID-19 and was not showing symptoms. Until further tests are done, the World Health organization is not sure if the canine was carrying the coronavirus, or if its oral and nasal cavities tested positive from environmental contamination. The test could also be a result of the pet carrying a different coronavirus than the COVID-19.

So what Coronavirus affect canines?

Coronavirus in dogs is typically a highly contagious intestinal infection worldwide. Coronavirus is usually short-lived, but may cause considerable abdominal discomfort for a few days in infected dogs. CANINE CORONAVIRUS DOES NOT AFFECT PEOPLE. As with any virus, antibiotics are ineffective and treatment is only symptomatic. Another form of coronavirus affecting canines is a respiratory coronavirus. This can cause an acute respiratory infection, and is part of the complex of viruses and bacteria associated with canine infectious respiratory disease (CIRD) or ‘kennel cough’.

If we can be of any assistance, remember to give us a call, or stop by. We are open every day from 7am-9pm!

(808) 834-PETS (7387)