Coronavirus in Felines FAQ

First off… What is Coronavirus?
Coronavirus is not just one type of virus. It is a large family of viruses that can infect humans and 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.

So what Coronaviruses affect cats?
Feline coronavirus is highly prevalent in cat populations worldwide causing GI signs. Most infections are clinically inapparent or characterized by mild, self-limiting gastroenteritis. Occasionally, vomiting and diarrhea can be acute and severe or chronic and unresponsive to treatment. The virus can mutate to cause feline infectious peritonitis (FIP), a highly fatal, multisystemic disease, however mutation is rare. Although diarrhea is the most common clinical sign of infection in kittens, respiratory signs have also been reported. Treatment, if required, is symptomatic and supportive since antibiotics are not effective.

How does the COVID-19 coronavirus affect my cat?
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. NO FELINES HAVE TESTED POSITIVE FOR COVID-19.

If we can be of any assistance, remember to give us a call, or stop by. We are open from 7am-9pm!
(808) 834-PETS (7387)