



**Kentucky Public Health**  
Prevent. Promote. Protect.

## **2019 Novel Coronavirus Veterinarian Clinic Guidance**

**Kentucky Department for Public Health  
3-20-20**

### **What if a Veterinary staff member is diagnosed with COVID-19?**

- No one should work while ill
- The local health department (LHD) will be given the results
- The LHD will follow up with the positive patient
- The patient will be either:
  1. Be hospitalized
  2. Isolated at home if not ill enough to be hospitalized
  3. To be released from isolation:
    - a. A minimum of 7 days since onset of symptoms
    - b. Have all symptoms resolved
    - c. Be 72 hours fever free (without antipyretics)
- Contacts will be investigated and a risk assessment done to determine risk of each employees
- LHD will determine if anyone is at high risk and needs a 14 days quarantine
- Different LHD's have different capacity for monitoring, so some may be monitored daily and some may not
- Staff should consider:
  1. Practice social distancing during work hours to minimize risk
  2. Take temperatures of employees at the beginning of the work day, send anyone home with a fever to prevent exposures
- Maintain Social distancing with clients
  1. Curbside pick-up and drop off for pets
  2. Consider telemedicine, as appropriate, with clients with established vet-client-patient relationship

### **What if a client is diagnosed with COVID-19?**

- To date, there is no evidence that domestic animals can get sick or are able to transmit COVID 19
- Recommend a healthy person bring the animal in but avoid unnecessary procedures or visits
- Staff that brings the animal into the clinic, should wear gloves, eye and respiratory protection
- Notification to the State Public Health Veterinarian is not required, but is available if you have questions: 502-682-4048
- Cleaning is accomplished with standard cleaning and disinfecting products. Follow instructions, especially contact time. Focus on high touch areas.