Animal Health Alert: Coronavirus Disease (COVID-19) Guidance for Veterinarians 4.17.2020

Dear colleagues,

As you are likely aware, Los Angeles County Public Health, along with the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC), and other federal, state and local public health agencies are responding to the ongoing Coronavirus Disease 2019 (COVID-19) outbreak. Veterinary medicine is considered an essential service during the COVID-19 pandemic. Los Angeles County Veterinary Public Health has put together guidance documents to help guide your operation during this time.

Of note, the <u>Los Angeles County COVID-19 Guidance for Veterinary Practice Personnel</u> contains recommendations for social distancing, self-monitoring and a return-to-work protocol for staff with confirmed or suspected COVID-19. In addition, several resources for up-to-date information on COVID-19 are provided below. More information on COVID-19 is also available on our <u>website</u>. Please be aware that there is much to learn about COVID-19 and new information is generated daily. Be sure to check credible resources regularly to stay up to date on all the ways to keep yourself and those around you safe.

Guidance documents from Los Angeles County Public Health:

- Los Angeles County COVID-19 Guidance for Veterinary Practice Personnel (pdf attached)
- Los Angeles County COVID-19 FAQ for Animal Care and Control Staff (pdf attached)
- Los Angeles County COVID-19 FAQ for Pet Owners (pdf attached)

Links for additional local and state COVID-19 updates:

- Los Angeles County Department of Public Health COVID-19 site
- Los Angeles County COVID-19 Resources
- Los Angeles City COVID-19 site
- California Department of Public Health COVID-19 site

Additional resources for veterinarians and clients:

- American Veterinary Medical Association COVID-19 site
- Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, COVID-19 and Animals
- California Veterinary Medical Association COVID-19 Updates

Information on SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Animals:

 Centers for Disease Control and Prevention, Evaluation for SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Animals

Additional resources for animal control and shelters:

- Interim Recommendations for Shelters from AVMA
- Animal Services Role in COVID-19 Support, University of Wisconsin-Madison
- National Animal Care and Control Association Statements on COVID-19

This situation is constantly changing and we encourage you to check for updates regularly. Please call (213-288-7060) or email (vet@ph.lacounty.gov) if you have specific questions.

Sincerely,

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