

April 9, 2021

Dr. Monique Eloit
Director General
World Organisation for Animal Health (OIE)
12, rue de Prony
75017 Paris
France

Subject: Reporting of SARS-CoV-2 infection in companion animals

Dear Dr. Eloit,

In accordance with article 1.1.6 of the Terrestrial Animal Health Code of the OIE, I would like to provide you with the following cumulative report of SARS-CoV-2 infections in companion animals in Canada.

The animals included in this report were identified through research studies that targeted companion animals that lived in households where humans were confirmed to have COVID-19. The research was undertaken to better understand the epidemiology of SARS-CoV-2 infections at the human-animal interface.

As the studies continue to unfold, we expect to have additional positive cases detected in COVID-19 positive households. I will continue to report to the OIE by providing updates to the attached table on a monthly basis.

Yours sincerely,

Jaspinder Komal
Vice-President, Science Branch
Chief Veterinary Officer for Canada
OIE Delegate for Canada

Case	Species	Province of origin	Age of animal	Clinical signs	Date of onset in humans	Date animal sampled	Laboratory where initially tested*	Date confirmed positive (NCFAD**)	Specimen positive on RRT-PCR***	Other Relevant information
1	Dog	Ontario	adult	None	26/09/20	06/10/20	1, 2	10/22/20	R	Other dog in household negative
2	Cat	Ontario	6 mths	Slight respiratory signs	15/11/20	25/11/20	1, 2	07/12/20	O	Other cat in household negative
3	Cat	Ontario	8 mths	None	01/01/21	11/01/21	1, 2	25/01/21	O,R	-
4	Cat	British Columbia	adult	Unknown, chronic respiratory disease	01/01/21	11/01/21	1, 2	25/01/21	O,N,R	-
5	Cat	Quebec	adult	Slightly depressed	20/01/21	11/02/21	3	22/02/21	ON	-
6	Cat	Quebec	14y	Sneezing	17/02/21	26/02/21	3	16/03/21	ON	Other cat (negative) and dog (not-tested) in household
7	Cat	Ontario	adult	None	Prior to 23/02/21	03/03/21	1	18/03/21	O	A group of 22 cats and 2 dogs from a positive COVID household were placed in a shelter. One cat was confirmed as positive.

* 1 Ontario Veterinary College Research Laboratory, Guelph, Ontario

2 Ontario Animal Health Laboratory, Guelph, Ontario

3 Service de diagnostic, Faculté de médecine vétérinaire, Saint-Hyacinthe, Québec

** National Centre for Foreign Animal Disease (NCFAD), Canadian Food Inspection Agency, Winnipeg, Manitoba

*** O: oral; N: nasal; R: rectal; ON: Oro-nasal