IDEXX SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) RealPCR Test algorithm

When may it be appropriate to test a pet for COVID-19?

IDEXX SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) RealPCR™ Test

Consultation with state public health veterinarian recommended prior to testing

Do not test for COVID-19

Cause found on respiratory RealPCR panel?

Yes

No

Is there a history of the patient being exposed to COVID-19 (e.g., infected human in household)?

Yes

No

Has the patient been tested for common respiratory pathogens?

Yes

No

Does the patient have respiratory or other clinical signs of COVID-19?

Yes

No

Test for more common causes:

Respiratory Disease (URD) RealPCR™ Panel—Canine

Comprehensive Respiratory Disease (CRD) RealPCR™ Panel—Canine

Influenza Virus RealPCR™ Panel—Canine/Ferret

When may it be appropriate to test a pet for COVID-19?
How to manage a SARS-CoV-2 PCR-positive pet

**IDEXX SARS-CoV-2 (COVID-19) RealPCR™ Test positive result**

Reportable disease: veterinarian must notify local public health authorities

**Care for in isolation ward to avoid infecting other unexposed patients**

Yes

Does pet require hospitalization?

No

History of COVID-19 infected human(s) in the household?

No

Exposure source likely from outside home? (e.g., recently adopted, indoor/outdoor cat, history of boarding)

No

Human(s) in household may have subclinical infection; consult with local public health authorities to determine next steps, if any, to assess human(s) for infection

Yes

Consult with local public health authorities; risk assessment to determine whether to isolate pet at home or at veterinary clinic may depend on several factors, such as the following:

- Length of time animal has been in household since exposure occurred
- Whether other humans or pets were also exposed to suspected source
- Presence of immunocompromised or high-risk pets or humans in household

**Care for at home with owner, keep indoors and isolated from naïve animals, and wash hands before and after handling pets**

No

Exposure source likely from outside home? (e.g., recently adopted, indoor/outdoor cat, history of boarding)

Yes

Consider follow-up PCR test at 14 days; submit both respiratory swabs and fresh feces

No

Reintroduce to normal activities after at least 14 days following resolution of clinical signs and/or negative follow-up PCR test

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