

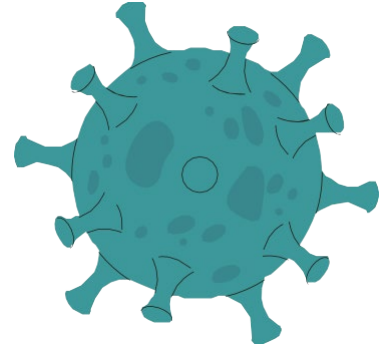
FREE SARS-COV-2 PCR TESTING FOR ANIMALS IN LOS ANGELES COUNTY

(SARS-CoV-2 is the virus that causes COVID-19)

WHY TEST ANIMALS FOR SARS-COV-2

SARS-CoV-2 has infected a wide range of animal species worldwide. It remains important to conduct surveillance for SARS-CoV-2 in animals to **prevent new animal reservoirs and monitor for mutations that could have an impact on human and animal health.**

Veterinary Public Health (VPH) is partnering with agencies in Los Angeles County to test a variety of animals including wildlife and marine mammals and needs your help testing pets!

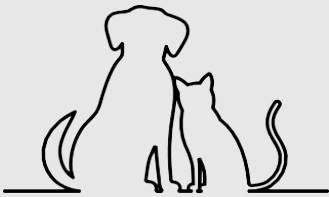


WHICH PETS ARE ELIGIBLE FOR FREE TESTING?



Any **POCKET PETS**

Rabbits, guinea pigs, hamsters, ferrets, pet mice and rats, etc. Regardless of exposure to COVID-19, healthy or sick



CATS and DOGS with a recent exposure to COVID-19

Sampling soon after exposure is ideal, typically within 3-7 days (animals, particularly dogs, don't shed the virus for very long). Samples from symptomatic animals are a priority.

PROTOCOL

- If you have an animal that matches the above criteria, use a test kit provided by VPH to swab the animal. Swabs at the back of the throat are preferred. **Make sure to use the swab from the VPH test kit**, as it has a special fluid to preserve the virus.

If you need a test kit, call us at 213-288-7060 M-F 8-5pm. It may take a day to receive the test kit.

- Fill out the SARS-CoV-2 report form inside the test kit and place with the specimen in the fridge.
- Call or email to let us know the kit is ready for pick up the same day you take the sample. We must deliver the sample to our lab within three days of collection.
- You are done! VPH will report the results to you within 7 days.



vet@ph.lacounty.gov



(213) 288-7060



publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet



COUNTY OF LOS ANGELES
Public Health