

**Animal Health Advisory: SARS-CoV-2 Surveillance and Testing Grant –
Veterinary Survey to Assess Knowledge and Barriers to SARS-CoV-2 Testing
6.13.2022**

Key Points

- Los Angeles County Veterinary Public Health (VPH) has received funding to support surveillance and testing for SARS-CoV-2 (the virus that causes COVID-19) in animals in Los Angeles County (LAC).
- VPH will be conducting a knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) survey to assess current knowledge, surveillance capabilities, and testing access surrounding SARS-CoV-2 in animals in LAC.
- Please watch for an email from VPH via SurveyMonkey and complete the survey once you receive it. All responses will be anonymized.

Dear Colleagues,

Los Angeles County Veterinary Public Health (VPH) has received funding from the Council of State and Territorial Epidemiologists (CSTE) and the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) through the SARS-CoV-2 Surveillance and Capacity Building at the Human-Animal-Environment Interface grant. The objectives of this grant include assessing current SARS-CoV-2 surveillance infrastructure, identifying existing legislation and mechanisms to support sustained surveillance efforts, and improving understanding of risks of SARS-CoV-2 transmission between people and animals in the United States. Findings will be shared on the [VPH website](#), through the [AHAN](#), and hopefully in publications.

Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices Survey Among Veterinary Clinics in Los Angeles County

To meet the goals of this grant, VPH will conduct a knowledge, attitudes, and practices (KAP) survey regarding SARS-CoV-2 in animals among veterinary clinics in Los Angeles County. We anticipate sending out the survey today. The survey will be sent to your clinic email address from vet@ph.lacounty.gov via SurveyMonkey. The survey should take about 15 minutes and will ask questions about SARS-CoV-2 in animals, your attitudes towards COVID-19 generally, and your thoughts and experiences with testing animals for SARS-CoV-2. Even if you have never seen a SARS-CoV-2 positive animal and have never considered testing, please complete the survey! We ask that at least one veterinarian from each practice or facility complete the survey. However, if multiple veterinarians from your facility would like to participate, please reach out to us at vet@ph.lacounty.gov to receive an additional survey link. All survey data will be anonymized.

SARS-CoV-2 Testing in Animals

Of interest to LAC veterinarians, VPH can offer **free** PCR testing for species and cases meeting the goals of this grant and strain typing for positive samples. Sampling will be focused on species where SARS-CoV-2 has been less well studied. This includes marine mammals, terrestrial wildlife, bats, zoo animals, and pocket pets. Some funds will also be available to support testing of local domestic pets that have an exposure to a human with COVID-19.

Call (213-288-7060) or email (vet@ph.lacounty.gov) to inquire about individual testing. Also, please reach out to VPH if you are interested in partnering with us on this grant. This may include practices that see pocket pets or anticipate seeing multiple exposed dogs and cats.

Resources

- LAC VPH: [Los Angeles County SARS-CoV-2 Testing for Animals](#)
- LAC VPH: [Pets and COVID-19](#)
- LAC-VPH: [SARS-CoV-2 Reporting Form](#)

Thank you for your continued efforts to keep animals and humans healthy throughout the COVID-19 pandemic. We appreciate your assistance in learning more about this virus and how it impacts both animals and people.

Sincerely,

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Please email vet@ph.lacounty.gov if you wish to unsubscribe or need other AHAN-related assistance.

To sign up for future Animal Health Alerts or to view previously released AHANs, please visit

<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/AHAN.htm>.

- [SARS CoV2 Specimen Swab Instructions.docx](#)
- [H-3021 SARS CoV2 PHL Test Request Form STAKEHOLDER.pdf](#)
- [SARSCoV2VPHReportingForm.pdf](#)
- [SARS CoV2 Lab Form Instructions Protocol.docx](#)