



**Maddie's Shelter  
Medicine Program  
Cornell University**

## ***FAQ: Should I be worried about transmitting COVID-19 to my cat?***

- There has been one isolated case reported in Liège, Belgium where a cat has been confirmed to have been infected by its owner with the coronavirus. The cat lived with its owner who started showing symptoms of the virus a week before the cat did. The cat experienced vomiting and diarrhea in addition to respiratory difficulties. Research indicated that the cat's secretions (vomit and diarrhea) contained the virus but does not appear to be a means of transmission of the virus.

Transmission of COVID-19 from an infected owner to their cat is rare. The CDC still advises caution and recommends that if you are sick or think you might have the coronavirus you should restrict contact with pets including snuggling, being kissed or licked, and sharing food with them. If you must care for or interact with your pet, wash your hands before and after touching them.

Source:

<https://www.brusselstimes.com/all-news/belgium-all-news/103003/coronavirus-belgian-woman-infected-her-cat/>

<https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/daily-life-coping/animals.html>



#ThanksToMaddie