

Animal Health Update: ATTENTION Hospital Managers and Veterinarians: Many Diseases are Legally Reportable in Los Angeles County
10.2.2023

Dear Veterinary Hospital Managers and Veterinary Colleagues:

This is a reminder that many diseases in animals are legally reportable in Los Angeles County per the Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances.

- We have recently received an increased number of Electronic Lab Reports from veterinary diagnostic laboratories.
- You may be hearing from us to request disease reports about your patients that we have not received from your practice.
- These diseases were always reportable, and you should not wait until you hear from us to report.

Action Items:

- Forward this message to the hospital manager and veterinarians in your practice.
- Print and post the Los Angeles County Reportable Animal Disease List in your treatment and office areas for easy reference:
<http://ph.lacounty.gov/vet/docs/VPHReportableDiseaseList2023.pdf>
- Use the reporting forms available here: <http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/Forms.htm>
- Please respond in a timely manner when we contact your practice about a disease report request. We most commonly will contact you by email, although sometimes we may reach out by phone or fax. Please respond even if the veterinarian caring for the animal believes a positive test result was an incidental finding, a false positive, or related to recent vaccination.

Infectious animal diseases are legally reportable in Los Angeles County by the following Ordinance:

Per Title 10, Division 2, Section 10.64.020, of the Los Angeles County Code of Ordinances, it is the duty of any person suspecting or having knowledge of the presence of any infectious diseases in animals to report to the local public health department. The prioritized animal disease list is specific to Los Angeles County and differs from state and federal reporting requirements.

Failure to comply with these ordinances may result in disciplinary action against both the practice and licensed veterinarian by the Veterinary Medical Board.

If you have any questions, you may reach Veterinary Public Health by email vet@ph.lacounty.gov or phone (213) 288-7060 (Monday-Friday, 8am-5pm).

Sincerely,

Karen Ehnert, DVM, MPVM, DACVPM
Director
Veterinary Public Health
Los Angeles County Department of Public Health
313 N. Figueroa St, Room 1127
Los Angeles, CA 90012
(213) 288-7060
(213) 481-2375 Fax
kehner@ph.lacounty.gov
<http://publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/>

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