



# RESEARCH USING SAVSNET DATA

# A NATIONAL OUTBREAK OF SEVERE VOMITING IN DOGS ASSOCIATED WITH A CANINE ENTERIC CORONAVIRUS



Full paper published in [Emerging Infectious Diseases](#)

*This work involved colleagues at the former Animal Health Trust, University of Bristol, Lancaster University and the University of Manchester through a Dogs Trust funded research project called SAVSNET-Agile. SAVSNET-Agile links SAVSNET data to state-of-the-art informatics, statistics and genomic technologies, to develop a suite of near realtime actionable health resources.*



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## VOMITING DOGS

Vomiting is frequent in dogs and most cases are mild. In January 2020 we were notified that vets were seeing more cases of severe vomiting, with dogs vomiting five or more times in a short period of time.

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## SAVSNET DATA

Using SAVSNET data we were able to show a statistical increase in gastroenteric disease in dogs. This was matched by increases in maropitant use (a common anti-emetic) and the recording of severe vomiting in medical records.

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## QUESTIONNAIRES

Using questionnaires, we were able to show this seemingly new syndrome was apparently infectious, but not associated with a type of diet. Importantly, it did NOT seem to affect humans or other species. We also published [guidance](#) on how to minimise the spread of this new syndrome.

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## LAB WORK

Using new DNA technologies, we were able to show affected animals frequently tested positive for canine enteric coronavirus (CeCoV). These are well known viruses but usually associated with relatively mild enteric disease of dogs. CeCoV poses no known risk to people or other species.

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## THIS IS NOT COVID19

Although they are coronaviruses, CeCoVs are only distantly related to SARS-CoV2, the cause of COVID19 in people.

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## ONGOING MONITORING

The outbreak was declared over in May, probably largely because of warming temperatures. We are monitoring the population in autumn and winter to see if something similar happens again.