You, Your Pet, and CRE



You are receiving this information because your pet tested positive for CRE

WHAT IS CRE?

Carbapenem-Resistant Enterobacterales (CRE) are a group of bacteria that have developed resistance to a class of antibiotics known as carbapenems, which are often used for treating severe lifethreatening bacterial infections. This resistance makes infections caused by CRE challenging to treat. Both humans and animals can carry CRE without showing symptoms of infection.

HOW DID MY PET GET CRE?

There are a variety of different ways that animals can get CRE including contaminated food/surroundings or contact with a person or animal who is either infected or a carrier for CRE. Both people and animals can carry CRE in their gut without any symptoms, making them a healthy carrier. All of these factors make it difficult to know for sure where your pet acquired CRE.

WILL I OR MY FAMILY CATCH THIS?

Pet owners can get CRE from their pets, however the risk is low. Healthy individuals rarely get sick from CRE, even if they are a carrier. But if someone in your home has a weakened immune system, inform a physician of your pet's CRE status.

HOW LONG WILL MY PET CARRY CRE?

The length of time a pet carries CRE varies and is influenced by factors like health and the environment. Speak with your veterinarian to determine a plan for your pet going forward.

The clinicians at OSU VMC, along with members of the Antimicrobial Stewardship Program, are here to assist you in managing your pet's CRE infection

WANT MORE INFORMATION?

CDC information for Pet Owners from the CDC



https://www.cdc.gov/hai/organisms/<u>cre/FAQ-Owners.html</u>



CREATED BY: OSU-CVM Antimicrobial Stewardship Program

buckeyeasp@osu.edu

Special thanks to Emily Fletcher for content creation.

Food and Drug Administration's Veterinary Laboratory Investigation and Response Network (FDA Vet-LIRN) under Grant 1U18FD007232.

HOW CAN I REDUCE THE RISK OF **TRANSMISSION?**



Wash your hands after interacting with your pet or after touching any of their toys or supplies.



Avoid letting pets lick you, especially on the face or on open wounds.



Keep your pet's food and supplies out of the kitchen and avoid cleaning pet supplies in your kitchen sinks.



Follow the instructions from your vet, especially when managing wounds and administering antimicrobials.



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Funded by (FOA PA-18-604) and performed in collaboration with the United States Food and Drug Administration's Veterinary Laboratory Investigation and Response Network (FDA Vet-LIRN) under Grant 1U18FD007232.

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