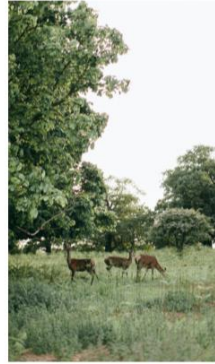


# SARS-CoV-2 IN WHITE-TAILED DEER

## WHAT ARE SARS-CoV-2 AND COVID-19?

- Sudden acute respiratory syndrome coronavirus 2 (SARS-CoV-2) is the virus that causes COVID-19
- SARS-CoV-2 is a member of the coronavirus family; these viruses can cause respiratory and gastrointestinal disease in humans, domestic animals, and wildlife



- SARS-CoV-2 virus is zoonotic, meaning it can infect both animals and humans

## CAN WHITE-TAILED DEER GET COVID-19?



- White-tailed deer are highly susceptible to infection, but do not show any symptoms related to infection
- Wild and farmed white-tailed deer in the northeast and central United States were found to be affected by SARS-CoV-2
- Strong evidence of transmission occurring via humans to deer, deer to deer in the wild, and potentially deer to humans.

## CAN PEOPLE GET COVID-19 FROM DEER?

- Viral transmission from deer to humans has not yet been demonstrated; however, deer farmers and wildlife professionals are at a higher risk of contracting COVID-19 via respiratory aerosols
- If you are in close contact with white-tailed deer, consider the following precautions:
  - Get vaccinated and boosted against COVID-19
  - Wear a mask, gloves, and eye protection when handling deer

## Cervidae Health Research Initiative



Please scan the QR code for the full article by the ChERI director and wildlife disease specialist, Dr. Samantha Wisely



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