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Two Pottawatomie Co cats test positive for bird flu

(KMZA)--Two domestic cats in Pottawatomie County in northeast Kansas have tested positive for avian influenza.

The Kansas News Service reports that local veterinarians are telling cat owners to be cautious.

Associate Veterinarian Kellie Lewis of TimberCreek Veterinary Hospital says cat owners should keep indoor cats inside and closely monitor outdoor cats.

She says bird flu symptoms in cats start as fatigue and lack of appetite but then rapidly progress to neurological and respiratory issues. That can be deadly. Lewis says the risk to cats and their owners is low, but it- wise to be on guard.

Lewis says to wear gloves when handling dead birds and to keep cats or other animals away from sick birds.

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