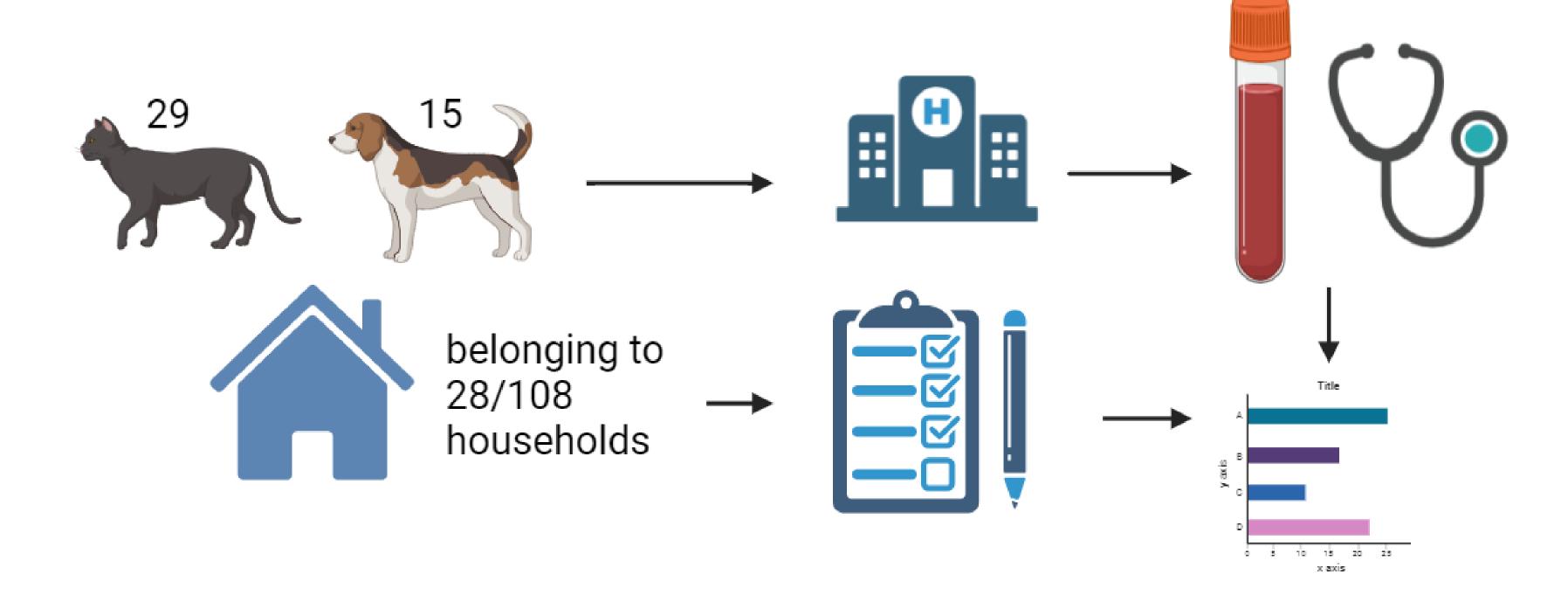
Pets in this cohort have close physical contact with their owners, so there is a potential for zoonotic transmission of pathogens.

BEready pilot study – zoonotic risk, closeness of human-animal contact and preventive health measures in household pets

Background

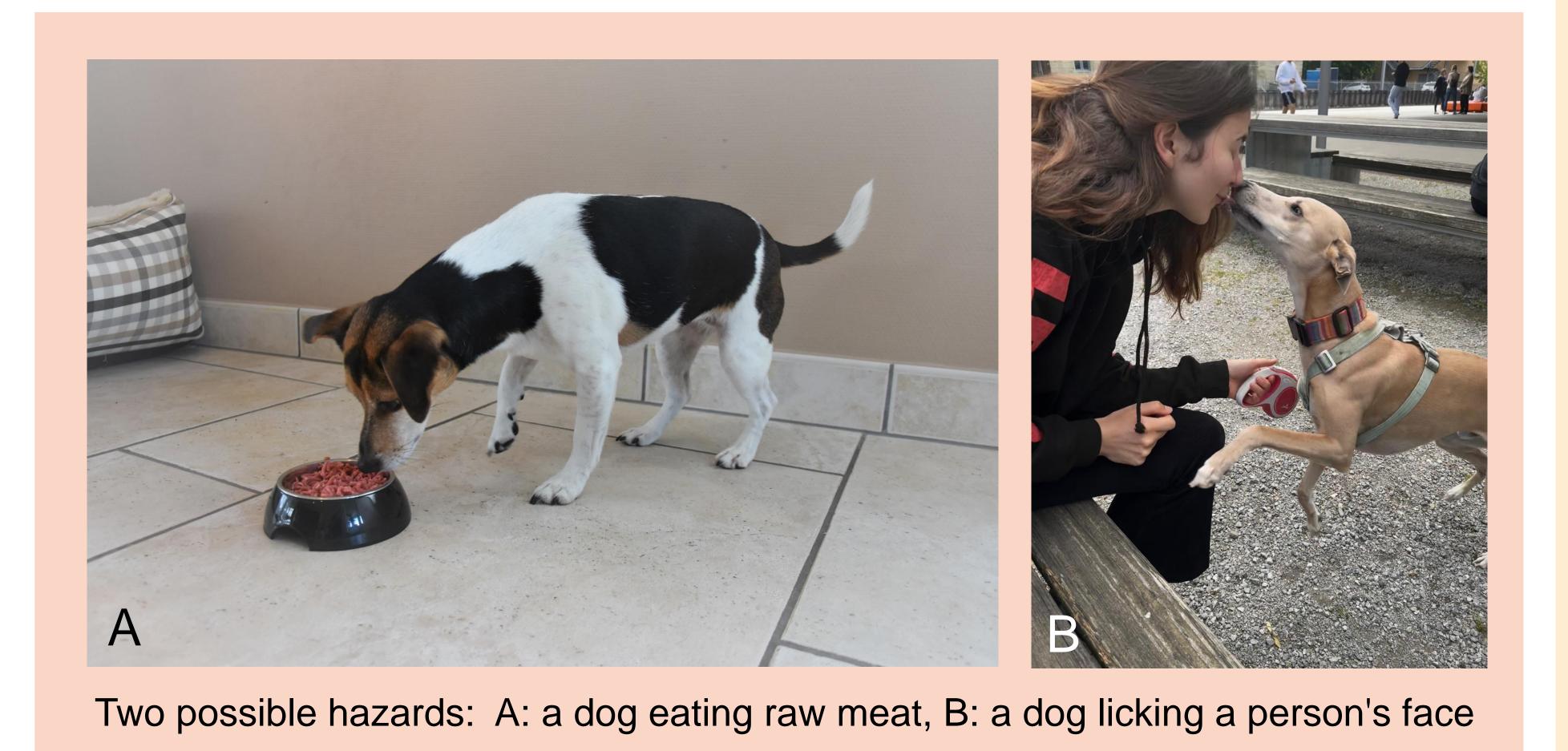
BEready ("Bern, get ready") is a longitudinal household cohort study to foster pandemic preparedness. Because many emerging diseases are zoonotic the BEready cohort also includes the dogs and cats of the participating households.

Methods



Conclusion

Dogs and cats in the pilot study are generally well cared for and have close physical contact with their owners. Therefore, there is a potential for zoonotic transmission of pathogens. There are also some behaviours which might elevate the risk for infectious diseases, such as feeding of raw meat, contact with livestock and not deworming the animals.



Results Access to the sofa (38/43): Access to owner's bed (26/43): Licking owner's face (6/42): Vaccination at least one vaccination provided vaccination passport correctly vaccinated* percentage of correctly vaccinated animals of those who provided the vaccination passport according to svk-asmpa guidelines, vaccination intervalls max. 6 months postponed) ■ dogs: n = 15 Feeding of raw meat Cats (8/25) Dogs (11/15) Owner reported regular antiparasitic treatment Cats outdoor (18/22) Cats indoor (2/7) Dogs (15/15) 7/29 (26.9%) of cats and 8/14 (57.1%) of dogs have contact with livestock

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