



# What is Adenovirus?

There are various types of adenoviruses that affect reptiles, but the one we are most likely to encounter with pets is the Agamid Adenovirus common in captive populations of **Bearded Dragons**.

### Can I catch Adenovirus from my bearded dragon?

No, humans cannot catch adenovirus from a bearded dragon.

### What about my other pets?

Only other agamid lizards can catch adenovirus from a bearded dragon. You only have to worry about it if you have another bearded dragon or a uromastyx lizard.

### What does it mean if my dragon is adeno-positive?

Adenovirus is a chronic autoimmune disease, much like FIV in cats. An adeno-positive dragon may experience a higher risk for other infections, weight loss, failure to thrive, and have a shorter life expectancy than dragons who are adeno-negative.

However, it is very possible for an adeno-positive dragon to live a happy and comfortable life, as long as their owners are dedicated to keeping up with proper husbandry and health checks.

### How common is Adenovirus in bearded dragons?

Adenovirus is extremely common in store-bought dragons. Our vet in Chicago says about 70% of beardies they test come back positive.

### How can I help my adeno-positive bearded dragon thrive?

#### 1. Proper Housing

Reptiles cannot fight off infections when housed in temperatures that are too hot or too cold, or with improper humidity levels.

#### 1. Good Diet

Frequent feedings with proper nutrition and lots of fresh veggies are vital to keeping up an adeno-positive dragon's well-being

#### 1. Regular Health checks

A yearly exam, bloodwork and fecal with an exotics vet will help ensure that you catch any issues before they become serious.