

Signs of Poisoning

Every year, hundreds of thousands of dogs suffer from some form of poisoning—

and the culprits in the vast majority of cases are common household and garden products. Drugs such as cold and flu medicines, painkillers and anti depressants; insecticides and rodent bait; plants like sago palms and azaleas; cleaning agents like bleach, detergent, and disinfectant; and outdoor toxins like antifreeze and fertilizers. Always keep such hazards in locked cabinets or on high shelves, well out of reach of your dog. Also be aware that not all symptoms of poisoning occur shortly after ingestion; some can take 18 to 36 hours to appear.

Look out for: Salivation, vomiting or diarrhoea, uncoordinated gait, seizures, muscle twitching, weakness, nose bleeds, rectal bleeding, and excessive thirst – unseen symptoms: internal bleeding. If your dog has ingested poison, bring a sample of the material with you to the vet if you can.

Poisoning

A condition that results from the ingestion, inhalation, absorption, injection, or application of a substance that causes structural damage or functional disturbance of the tissues of the body.

What to Do

- Try to get in touch with a veterinarian or a poison control center, and follow their instructions.
- If you can't get in touch with either and the poisoning occurred within the last 3 hours, induce vomiting unless your pet has ingested a petroleum product, a cleaning solution, or a strong acid or alkali.
- If the product is a petroleum product, cleaning solution, strong acid, or strong alkali, or was ingested more than 3 hours ago, you must get your pet to a veterinarian as soon as possible.
- If the pet vomits, save a sample of the vomitus for later inspection by the veterinarian.
- For accidental application of a chemical to your pet's skin, see chemical injuries.

What NOT to Do

- Do not give any liquid (other than the hydrogen peroxide or syrup of ipecac if inducing vomiting): they may move the poison into the body sooner.
- Do not attempt to induce vomiting in seizing, confused, or comatose pets.

Poisons that could harm your dog

Poisonous Plants

Monkshod, Andromeda, English Ivy, Apple seeds (cyanide), Elderberry, Narcissus (bulb), Arrow grass, Avocado, Oleander, Hyacinth (bulb), Boxwood, Hydrangea, Poison Ivy, Iris (bulb), Japanese Yew, Rhododendron, Jasmine (berries), Rhubarb ,Cherry Pits (cyanide), Snow on the Mountain, Chokecherry, Stinging Nettle, Climbing Lilly, Laburnum, Toadstool, Tobacco, Laurel, Tulip (bulb), Daphne, Walnut, Marigold ,Wisteria, Dieffenbachia

Poisonous Household Items

Acetaminophen, Laxatives, Antifreeze, Lead, Aspirin, Bleach ,Matches, Boric Acid, Metal Polish, Brake Fluid, Mineral Spirits, Carbon Monoxide, Mothballs, Carburettor Cleaner, Nail Polish and Remover, Christmas Tinsel ,Paint & Remover, Cleaning Fluid, Perm Solutions, Deodorants, Phenol Detergents, Photo Developer, Disinfectants, Rat Poison ,Drain Cleaner, Rubbing Alcohol, Dye, Shoe Polish, Fungicides, Sleeping Pills, Furniture Polish ,Soaps ,Gasoline ,Suntan Lotions, Hair Colourings, Tar, Herbicides ,Turpentine, Insecticides, Windshield, Fluid Kerosene, Wood stains.

Poisonous Foods for Your Dog

Chocolate

It is not chocolate itself that is poisonous to dogs, it is the theobromine, a naturally occurring compound found in chocolate. Theobromine causes different reactions to different dogs: dogs with health problems, especially epilepsy, are more affected by theobromine than healthy dogs. Theobromine can trigger epileptic seizures in dogs prone to or at risk of epilepsy. The size of the dog will also be a major factor: the smaller the dog, the more affected it is by the same amount than a larger dog. Therefore, toxicity is described on a mg/Kg basis. Furthermore, theobromine can cause cardiac irregularity, especially if the dog becomes excited. Cardiac arrhythmia can precipitate a myocardial infarct which can kill the dog. Theobromine also irritates the GI tract and in some dogs can cause internal bleeding which in some cases kills them a day or so later. Theobromine is also present in differing amounts in different kinds of chocolate. milk chocolate has 44-66 mg/oz, dark chocolate 450 mg/oz and baking/bitter chocolate or cocoa powder varies as much as 150-600 mg/oz. How much chocolate a dog can survive depends on its weight (and other unknown circumstances). Under 200 mg theobromine per kg body weight no deaths have been

observed. Theobromine will stay in the bloodstream between 14 and 20 hours. It goes back into the bloodstream through the stomach lining and takes a long time for the liver to filter out. Within two hours of ingestion, try inducing vomiting unless your dog is markedly stimulated, comatose, or has lost the gag reflex. If your dog has eaten a considerable amount of chocolate, or displays any of the above symptoms, take it to the vet without delay.

In the absence of major symptoms, administer activated charcoal. The unabsorbed theobromine will chemically bond to this and be eliminated in the faeces. In pinch, burnt (as in thoroughly burnt, crumbling in hand) toast will do.

Grapes and Raisins

Grapes and Raisins have been found to be toxic to dogs. Acute renal(kidney) failure is the most common result.

Nuts

Walnuts are poisonous to dogs and should be avoided. Many nuts are not good for dogs in general, their high phosphorous content is said to possibly lead to bladder stones.