

Care Guides

Common Poisons in dogs

What to do if you suspect your dog has been poisoned?

If you think your dog has ingested, inhaled or touched a poison it is important to seek veterinary advice immediately.

You should provide the veterinary practice with as much information as possible for them to decide if your dog needs to be seen for emergency treatment. The following information should be provided:

- What poison do you think your dog has been exposed to?
- How much have they been exposed to?
- When was your dog exposed to this?

Does your dog have any symptoms?

Do not try to make your dog sick at home as this could cause further complications which may harm your dog.

Kitchen poisons

Chocolate, onions, raisins/grapes, xylitol (found in some sugar free foods), alcohol, blue cheese, raw bread dough, cooked bones (not poisonous but can splinter when ingested), large amounts of sugary sweets, macadamia nuts, mouldy food, medications.

Cleaning cupboard

Bleach, detergent, oven and drain cleaners, dishwasher tablets and salts, polishes.

Garden and sheds

Antifreeze, rat/mouse bait, slug bait, fungi, spring bulbs, toads, acorns, conkers, foxgloves, pesticides, yew tree, herbicides, creosote, fertilisers, fuels, gloss paint, insecticides, water proofing sprays, white spirit, compost.

Puppies will often pick new things up in their mouths to see if it is edible. This means it is very important to keep anything unsafe or of value away from them. Keeping cupboards locked and securing gardens is very important.

Care Guides

Common Poisons in cats

What to do if you suspect your cat has been poisoned?

If you think your cat has ingested, inhaled or touched a poison it is important to seek veterinary advice immediately.

You should provide the veterinary practice with as much information as possible for them to decide if your cat needs to be seen for emergency treatment. The following information should be provided:

- What poison do you think your cat has been exposed to?
- How much have they been exposed to?
- When was your cat exposed to this?
- Does your cat have any symptoms?

Do not try to make your cat sick at home as this could cause further complications which may harm your cat.

Common poisons in cats

- Lilies (Lilium spp)
- Paracetamol and ibuprofen
- Ethylene glycol- the active ingredient in antifreeze
- Spot on flea treatments for dogs- these can contain permethrin which is toxic in cats
- Metaldehyde- in slug and snail bait
- Decorating and cleaning materials- varnishes, paints, preservatives, glass cleaners etc.

Tips to help prevent your cat coming into contact with anything poisons

1. Make sure your cat has access to areas that are free from poisonous plants.
2. Change water supplies regularly.
3. Keep house plants out of reach from your cat.
4. Separate your cat away from your dog if you have recently applied flea treatment to your dog's neck.
5. Keep medications safely locked away.
6. Never leave antifreeze where a cat could access.

Cats can ingest toxins by grooming their coat after their coat has come into contact with a toxic substance. If you think this is the case please call us immediately for further advice and prevent your cat from grooming further.