

DOG EMERGENCIES ACCIDENTS and ILLNESSES

ANIMAL NOT BREATHING

Apply Artificial Respiration and Cardiopulmonary Resuscitation (CPR).

Clear animal's mouth of foreign matter. Close animal's muzzle with hands, cover nose with clean, thin cloth and exhale directly into animal's nostrils at 12-15 breathes per minute.

Concurrently Begin CPR. Lay animal on its right side on flat surface. With mouth closed and artificial respiration in progress, locate the heart by reaching deep into the socket of the pet's left leg and counting 3-4 ribs back towards the tail along the pet's chest. Place heel of hand in that spot and compress chest rhythmically 60-80 times per minute. Compress 1-2 inches for large dogs, less than 1 inch for small dogs.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

BITE WOUNDS

Characterized by swelling, puncture, hair loss, hair matted with saliva, pus or blood.

Muzzle animal (see Restraint). Clip hair around wound. Clean by liberally applying hydrogen peroxide. Apply bandage to control bleeding.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN As soon as possible as such wounds often become infected and require professional treatment.

BLEEDING – External

Muzzle animal (see Restraint). Place thick gauze or cotton pad over wound and hold firmly. Use hands to apply firm, continuous pressure directly over bleeding area until clotting occurs. If there will be a delay in reaching the veterinarian, a large, clean bath towel can be used as a tourniquet. Apply tourniquet between the cute and the heart. Loosening every 3 - 5 minutes.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

BLEEDING - Internal

Indicated by very pale gums, coughing blood, bleeding from nose, mouth, rectum, blood in urine, collapse, rapid or weak pulse.

Keep animal as warm and quiet as possible. Do Not Attempt First Aid.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

BURNS – Chemical

Muzzle animal (see Restraint). Flush immediately with large quantities of cold water.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

BURNS – Severe

Muzzle animal (see Restraint). Quickly apply ice-water compresses. Treat for shock.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

CHOKING

Characterized by pawing at mouth, gagging, drooling, coughing, collapse

Quickly look into mouth to see if foreign object in throat is visible. If possible, grasp with tweezers or pliers and remove.

If Object Remains Lodged in Throat: Try a sharp blow on back of neck or between shoulders.

If This Fails, Attempt a Heimlich Maneuver: Place hands on either side of animal's rib cage and apply firm, quick pressure. Repeat 2 - 3 time.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW! If choking continues

DROWNING

Hold animal up by hind legs to expel water from lungs. Remove any foreign matter from mouth and throat. Begin artificial respiration and CPR if animal has stopped breathing. (See Animal Not Breathing section)

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

EYE CONDITIONS

Foreign object in eye, Eyeball out of socket

If you can see it and it is not imbedded in the eye, muzzle animal and remove it.

Put socks on animal's front paws to prevent scratching. Muzzle animal and gently attempt to push back in socket. Keep moist with saline solution (1 tsp. salt/1 pint water).

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

FRACTURES

Muzzle animal (see Restraint). Control bleeding, treat for shock if necessary. Do Not Attempt to Set

Fracture.

Transport to the veterinarian on plywood or wooden door padded with blankets. If veterinary care is not readily available, splint fracture by padding limb with gauze or cotton, place two flat sticks or rolled newspaper on either side of leg and tape.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

POISONING

Characterized by retching, convulsions, labored breathing, diarrhea, dilated pupils, salivation, weakness, collapse.

If you can quickly determine what the animal ingested and how much, call veterinarian immediately and provide animal's weight, age and other medical problems. TIME IS CRITICAL! Take further instructions over phone as antidotes vary.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

SNAKEBITE

Non-poisonous, Poisonous

Treat as for animal bite wound.

Muzzle animal (see Restraint). Keep animal quite to slow flow of venom. If leg bound, apply flat tourniquet above wound.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

CONVULSIONS

Characterized by shaking, falling, legs thrashing, salivating, urinating.

Move pet away from sharp cornered tables (pull pet carefully by one leg), if possible to a soft rug. Attempt to put blanket or soft cloth under pet's head.

Do Not Handle Animal in Any Other Way During Seizure as it could be dangerous to you. Convulsions usually last only 2-3 minutes. Keep animal quiet after seizure.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

DIARRHEA

Do not feed dog for 12 hours. Do provide animal with water, however, as diarrhea can cause dehydration.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN If symptoms persist for more than 12 hours. Take fresh stool sample with you.

HEATSTROKE

Characterized by rapid or difficult breathing, vomiting, collapse

Immediately place animal in tub of cold water or hose down if more accessible. Use rectal thermometer to monitor temperature. (Normal range is 100.5 F - 102.5 F). Encourage animal to drink cool water.

Apply ice-pack to animal's head.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

SHOCK

Characterized by weak pulse, shallow breathing, nervousness, dazed appearance.

Often accompanies severe injury or extreme fright. Keep animal restrained, quiet, and warm. If unconscious, keep head level with rest of body.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN NOW!

VOMITING (without other symptoms)

Remove food and do not feed animal for 12 hours. Also remove water for 12 hours, then provide to animal in limited quantities.

CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN If symptoms persist for more than 12 hours.

RESTRAINT: In many injuries to animals, it is necessary to employ restraint. An animal who is injured and in pain cannot be held responsible for its behavior.

Follow these directions carefully:

1. Use strip of gauze, necktie, rope or cloth about 3 feet long.
2. Make large loop in center, slip quickly over animal's nose.
3. Bring ends under chin and behind ears, fasten securely.