

Shock

Symptoms: not very responsive, pale gums, irregular breathing, dilated pupils
Shock occurs with serious injury. Keep pet gently restrained, quiet and warm.

Call veterinarian immediately.

Vomiting

Withhold food for 24 hours. Give small amounts of water frequently for two hours after vomiting stops. Give access to water after two hours and slowly introduce food after 24 hours.

Call veterinarian if your pet vomits more than 3 times in 24 hours, has blood in the vomitus or symptoms persist more than 24 hours.

Emergency Supplies

The following items will provide you with a basic first aid kit for your pet. Most of the items can be found at your local drug store.

Sterile gauze pads (4"x 4"), self-adhering bandages (stick to themselves), alcohol prep pads (to clean instruments and hands), instant ice packs, latex gloves, antiseptic solution (to clean wounds), triple antibiotic ointment, small flashlight, blunt scissors, tweezers, collar and leash, emergency blanket.

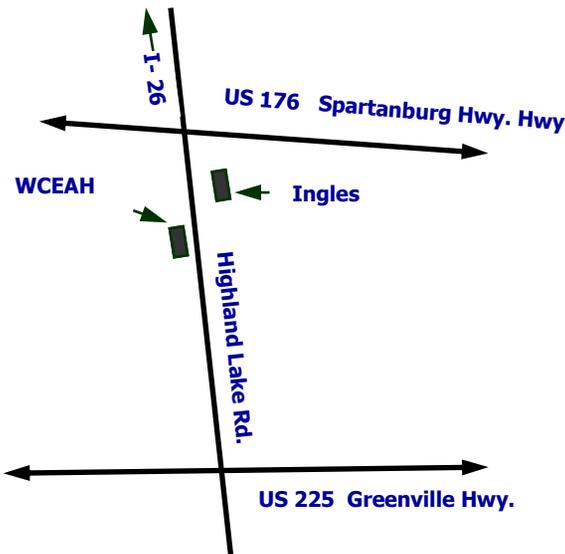
Microchip Identification

Several times each year a sick or injured pet is found, identified as our patient by its rabies tag and brought to the hospital. An implanted microchip provides a permanent, nationwide means to identify lost or stolen pets. Many shelters and agencies routinely scan incoming pets for microchips.

EMERGENCY PROCEDURES:

During normal business hours call ahead, if possible, so we can review your pet's medical record and prepare the treatment area for your arrival. For emergencies after 6:00pm Monday through Friday, after 2:00pm Saturday, all day Sunday and on holidays call or go directly to Western Carolina Veterinary Emergency Hospital in Hendersonville (WCVEH's number is 828-693-3331). We also recommend the Animal Emergency Clinic in Greenville, SC. (864-232-1878)

Directions to: WCVEH



In Hendersonville at 205 North Highland Lake Road.

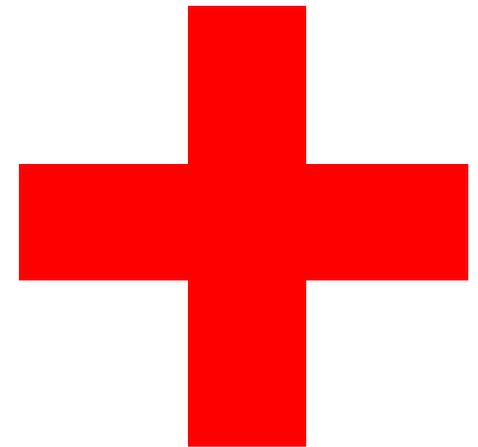
Directions to: Animal Emergency Clinic



From Hendersonville, take I-26 to I-85 South, take I-385 North to Greenville, Take exit 39 (Haywood Road). Take left onto Haywood Road. Travel 0.4 miles, turn right onto Woods Lake Road. Travel 0.4 miles and hospital is on the right.

Apple Valley Animal Hospital

Pet First Aid



3015 Chimney Rock Road
Hendersonville, NC

Phone: (828) 685-1650
Fax: (828) 685-9774
Email: info@AVvets.com
Website: www.AVvets.com

Emergencies

Approach any sick or wounded animal carefully. Trusted family pets can bite when in pain or shock and wildlife can transmit rabies.

This list is to help you identify emergencies in your pet. If you have any question about the seriousness of an injury or illness, contact the veterinarian immediately.

Bite Wounds

Approach carefully. Apply a muzzle. Check the wound for debris. If foreign material is present flush the wound with clean tap water. Bandage large wounds to keep them clean. Apply direct pressure if bleeding is serious, (see Bleeding below). Bite wounds often become infected. Veterinary care can greatly reduce the risk.

Call veterinarian.

Bite Wounds, snake inflicted

Symptoms: pain, rapid swelling, weakness, shock, puncture wounds which may be hard to see in fur. Exertion can spread the venom. Keep patient calm. Get emergency treatment immediately.

Call veterinarian immediately.

Bites/Stings, insect inflicted

Symptoms: swelling, pain, itching

Give Benadryl (Diphenhydramine) 1mg per pound of body weight.

Call veterinarian.

Bleeding

Apply firm, direct pressure to the wound for 8 to 10 minutes. Releasing pressure to check progress only slows the clotting process. If bandaging, be careful not to cut off circulation. Only use a tourniquet as the last resort because irreparable damage is likely.

Call veterinarian immediately.

Blunt Trauma (usually falls or hit-by-car)

Approach carefully. Apply a muzzle. Any fall over two feet or any strike which knocks the pet off its feet should be considered an emergency. Internal bleeding and lung injuries are a serious concern in these circumstances. Use extreme caution when moving as bone fractures and spinal injury may be present.

Call veterinarian immediately.

Breathing Problems / CPR

Any breathing difficulty is an emergency.

See if the animal is choking on something (see Choking below). If an object is removed from the throat and the pet is still not breathing, place the animal with its right side down. Close the pet's mouth and exhale directly into its nose until its chest expands. Repeat 12-15 times per minute. At the same time, apply heart massage with the other hand. The heart is located in the lower half of the chest. Compress the chest 1 to 2 inches for large dogs, 1 inch for small dogs and cats. Apply heart compressions 70-90 times per minute.

Call veterinarian immediately.

Burns

Symptoms: singed hair, blistering, redness. Flush area with large amounts of cold water. Apply ice pack for 15 to 20 minutes.

Call veterinarian immediately.

Choking

Symptoms: difficulty breathing, excessive pawing at mouth, blue tongue and gums.

See if an obstruction is visible in the throat. If so, clear the airway by removing object. Pliers or tweezers can be used to grip and pull objects. If object remains lodged, place hands on both sides of rib cage and apply quick, firm pressure. Another method is to place pet on its side and strike the rib cage firmly 3-4 times with the palm of your hand. Repeat procedure until object is dislodged. See section on Breathing Problems / CPR

Call veterinarian immediately.

Fractures

Symptoms: pain, inability to use limb. Muzzle pet and control bleeding if necessary. Do not try to reset fracture.

Transport to veterinarian immediately using a stretcher.

Diarrhea

Withhold food 12-24 hours. Provide water only. (If unvaccinated for parvovirus, call the veterinarian.) Call veterinarian if symptoms persist more than 12 hours in cats or small dogs. Call veterinarian if symptoms persist more than 24 hours in large dogs.

Heat Stroke

Symptoms: rapid or difficult breathing, vomiting, high body temperature, collapse.

Place pet in a tub of luke warm water, soak with a garden hose or wrap in cool wet towels. Do Not Use Ice.

Call veterinarian immediately.

Poisoning

Symptoms may include: vomiting, convulsions, pain, diarrhea, salivation, weakness, breathing difficulty.

If consumed, record what and how much if possible. **Immediately call the veterinarian or a poison control center. Do not induce vomiting without direction from the doctor.**

For poison on the fur/skin from oils, paints or chemicals, wash the pet with dishwashing detergent and rinse well. Wear appropriate gloves/clothing to protect yourself from exposure.

Call the veterinarian.

Common items poisonous to pets include: tulips, mushrooms, hyacinths, daffodils, lilies, Lily of the Valley, anti-freeze, household cleaners, fertilizers, herbicides, pesticides, insecticides, NSAIDS (like ibuprofen & aspirin), cold & flu medications, acetaminophen, vitamins, diet pills, bleach, disinfectants, mothballs, fabric softener, anti-cancer drugs, drain cleaners, potpourri, pest control products, tobacco and gums containing xylitol.

Seizure

Symptoms: Salivation, loss of bladder and bowel control, violent muscle movement, loss of consciousness

Move pet away from objects that could be harmful. Use blankets or towels for protective padding. Do not put yourself at risk by restraining the pet during a seizure. Seizures usually last 2-3 minutes. Afterwards keep the pet calm, quiet and cool.

Call veterinarian immediately.