

# 8 At home

## pet remedies and first aid

### 1. Bee Stings and Insect Bites



Look for: swelling, redness, itching, or mild hives.

What to do: Scrape with a credit card or use tweezers to grab and remove the stinger. Apply a cool compress and use a paste mixture of baking soda and water.

What NOT to do: Administer medications without veterinary guidance.

When to contact a Veterinarian: facial swelling, vomiting, difficulty breathing or collapse.

### 2. Burns



Look for: Redness, pain, or skin blistering.

What to do: Limit further exposure. If thermal/electrical, apply frequently changed cool water compresses for at least 30 minutes. If chemical, wash for at least 15 minutes or brush dry chemicals away. Use self-protection.

What NOT to do: Apply ointments, butter, or attempted to remove burned tissues. Apply neutralizing agents or immerse your pet in non-flowing water if dry chemical exposure.

When to contact a Veterinarian: If severe (charred, destroyed skin)

### 3. Fever/Heat Stroke



Look for: A body temperature  $>39.2^{\circ}\text{C}$ , excessive panting, and restlessness. Drooling, unsteadiness, or blue/purple/bright red gums.

What to do: Remove your pet from the heat and place cool, wet towels over the back of the neck, armpits, and groin. Wet ear flaps and paws with cold water, and focus direct fans on wetted areas.

What NOT to do: Do not overcool your pet or force water into your pet's mouth. Do not give aspirin, ibuprofen, acetaminophen, or other drugs.

When to contact a Veterinarian: Ideally, as soon as possible.

### 4. Dehydration



Look for: Dry mouth, tacky and thick saliva, or sunken eyes.

What to do: If not vomiting, give small amounts of water by mouth and slowly rehydrate.

What NOT to do: Allow immediate free access to large amounts of fluids, or feed dry food until recovered or directed by a veterinarian.

When to contact a Veterinarian: If dehydration is moderate/severe or your pet is lethargic, in pain, or not eating for more than a day.



A **Veterinarian-Client-Patient Relationship**, valid for one year after your pet has been examined, allows for telephone or other types of consults! For NECO clients, please contact 306-230-0226 for follow-up!



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### 5. Diarrhea and Vomiting



Look for: Frequent, watery poop or throwing up food or bile (yellow liquid or foam).

What to do: Remove food and water, check for dehydration, isolate from other pets, and if vomiting stops for 6-8 hours give small amounts of water/Gatorade/Pedialyte. Add Pure pumpkin and brown rice to meals. Small slices of ginger with honey can help relieve nausea.

What NOT to do: Give human medications without veterinarian direction or allow your pet to eat/drink until vomiting has resolved for 6-8 hours.

When to contact a Veterinarian: If vomiting or diarrhea persists or worsens.

### 6. Constipation



Look for: Frequent small poops or exaggerated straining to pee or poop.

What to do: Mix canned pure pumpkin or sources of fibre such as Metamucil or high fibre vegetables and fruits; give lots of water.

What NOT to do: Put pressure on your pet's stomach as you lift/carry them. Do not administer medications without veterinary guidance. Do not give toxic fruits such as avocado and grapes or raisins

When to contact a Veterinarian: If your pet is vomiting, is in pain, or has other signs of illness. Straining in cats may be due to urinary crystals which can be life-threatening.

### 7. Minor wounds



Look for: Bleeding with no exposed muscle, fat, or bone.

What to do: Apply pressure, clean the wound to remove debris, pat dry, apply antibiotic ointment, and bandage the wound with a non-stick contact layer, an absorbent layer, and an outer snug protective layer. Change bandages frequently and monitor for signs of infection. Raw honey may be used as an antibacterial. Epsom salts soaks help to relieve inflamed paws.

What NOT to do: Apply any material other than those mentioned.

When to contact a Veterinarian: For deep or complicated wounds.

### 8. Poisoning



Look for: Varies based on poison type. May see vomiting, breathing difficulties, drooling, disorientation, etc.

What to do: If unable to contact your veterinarian or poison control, make your pet vomit if they are NOT unconscious, seizing, unable to stand, having breathing difficulties, or if the toxin is an irritant. 3% hydrogen peroxide can be used, 1tsp/5ml per dose.

What NOT to do: Give any liquids

When to contact a Veterinarian: Always if poisoning is suspected. ASPCA Poison Control : (888) 426-4435



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