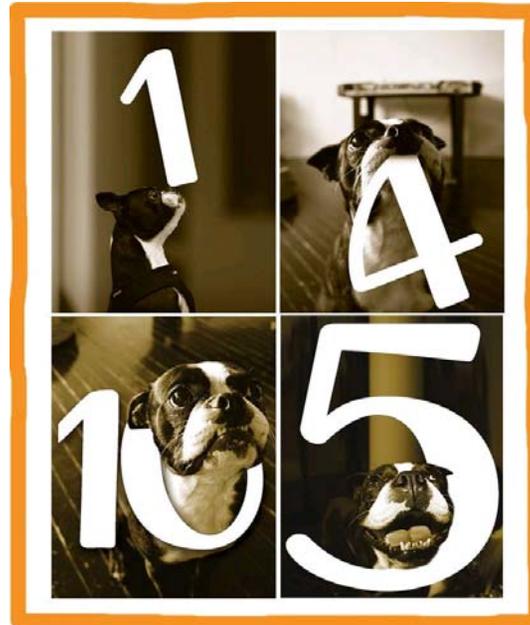


Top 10 Toxins



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2018 Top 10 Toxins of the Dog and Cat

1. Chocolate
2. Rodenticides
3. Ibuprofen
4. Xylitol
5. Grapes and raisins
6. Antidepressants
7. Acetaminophen
8. Vitamin D
9. ADHD stimulant medications
10. Fertilizers

1. Chocolate



Chocolate

- Toxicity varies by type of chocolate
 - Unsweetened > semi-sweet > dark > milk > white
- Dose makes a big difference!
- Symptoms
 - Mild: vomiting, diarrhea, increased thirst, restlessness
 - Moderate: Increased heart rate
 - Severe: tremors, seizures
- Treatable!



Chocolate Tips

- Keep the chocolate out of reach
- Dogs can smell chocolate! Watch out for wrapped gifts, bags, and backpacks.
- Have a plan for pets at parties and holidays



2. Mouse and Rat Poisons

- Anticoagulants – bleeding and blood loss
- Bromethalin – brain swelling and neurologic signs
- Cholecalciferol – elevated blood calcium levels

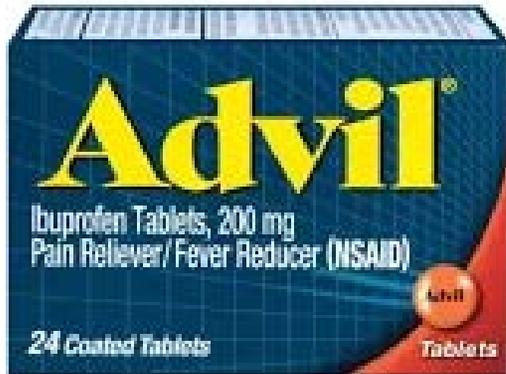


Mouse and Rat Poison Tips

- PLEASE KEEP THE PACKAGE FOR ID
- Use bait stations
- Anticoagulant baits are the safest option, because they have an antidote



3. Ibuprofen



Ibuprofen

- Cats are more sensitive than dogs
- Lower doses: cause vomiting and stomach ulcers
- Higher doses can also damage the kidneys



Medication Tips

- Keep medications locked up in a cabinet
- Make sure visitors and guests secure their medications if you have pets
- Find a secure site for packages if you have medications shipped
- Avoid the baggie of pills
- Take medications in a closed room to avoid dropped pills
- Never give any medications to your pet without first consulting your veterinarian

4. Xylitol



Xylitol

- Sweetener that can be toxic to dogs
- Found in many products, including gum, dental products, and low calorie/low sugar foods
- Lower doses can cause blood sugar to drop dangerously low in dogs
 - Lethargy, uncoordinated movements, seizures
- Higher doses can damage the liver in dogs
 - Vomiting, decreased appetite, jaundice

Other Sources of Xylitol

- Children's ear treatments
- Chewable prescription and OTC medications
- Compounded medications
- Lotions
- Skin gels
- Deodorants

Xylitol Tips

- Buy gum and other products that do not contain xylitol
- Beware of the car cups of gum
- Check labels –
It is not just gum!



5. Grapes and Raisins



Grapes and Raisins

- Poorly understood but can cause damage to the kidneys when ingested by dogs
- Dose is unknown – some dogs are more sensitive than others
- Very treatable when caught early



Grape and Raisin Tips

- Keep dogs out of the area when eating grapes and raisins
- Dried currants in foods like Irish soda bread are actually raisins
 - Fresh red and black currants are in the gooseberry family and are not considered toxic
- Grapeseed extract is not known to be toxic

6. Antidepressants



Antidepressants

- Dogs are sometimes prescribed these medications for anxiety and other behavior conditions
- Symptoms:
 - Lethargy or hyperexcitability
 - Disorientation
 - Dilated pupils
 - Changes HR, BP
 - Tremors and seizures



7. Acetaminophen



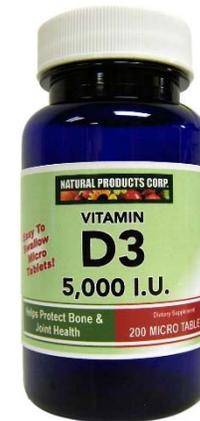
Acetaminophen

- Cats are VERY sensitive – < 1 pill is a problem
- Dogs
 - Most commonly causes damage to the liver
 - Vomiting, lethargy, lack of appetite, yellowing of skin and eyes
- Cats
 - Causes issues with red blood cells +/- liver
 - Decreased appetite and activity, drooling, vomiting, swelling of the face and paws, difficulty breathing

8. Vitamin D/Cholecalciferol

Sources

- Vitamin D3 supplements
- Calcipotriene psoriasis creams
- Cholecalciferol mouse and rat baits



Vitamin D/Cholecalciferol

- Overdose causes blood calcium levels to rise, which can damage the kidneys if untreated
- Symptoms
 - Vomiting
 - Decreased appetite
 - Increased thirst and urination



9. Stimulant ADHD Medications



Stimulant ADHD Medications

- One or two pills can be a problem depending on the specific medication and size of the pet
- Symptoms
 - Hyperactivity,
 - Dilated pupils
 - Elevated heart rate, blood pressure, and temperature
 - Tremors and seizures possible with high doses

10. Fertilizers



Fertilizers

- Fairly safe!
- Dogs love to eat fertilizer, especially with ingredients like bone meal, blood meal, fish meal
- Self-limiting vomiting, diarrhea

Fertilizer Tips

- Keep dogs out of bags of fertilizers
- A taste of fertilizer usually is not a problem
- Yard fertilizer is usually not a problem once it is properly applied, watered in, and dried



Common OTC Products

- Pepto Bismol
 - Contains aspirin (bismuth subsalicylate)
 - Should not be used in dogs
 - Signs include stomach ulceration and possible kidney damage with salicylate toxicity



- Imodium
 - Is an opioid with a narrow margin of safety in dogs
 - Signs include anorexia, decreased intestinal movement, constipation, sedation and low heart rate



Topical Toxins



- Tea Tree Oil (Melaleuca oil)
 - 100% oil: Narrow margin of safety in dogs and cats
 - Low concentrations in shampoos generally ok
 - Concentrated oil should never be used on pets
 - Signs include low body temperature, difficulty walking, dull/depression, muscle tremors, heart changes, liver damage (cats only)
 - Internet recommends for wounds, ear mites, fleas, etc.

Topical Toxins

- Permethrin/Pyrethrin
 - Narrow margin of safety in cats
 - Signs include tremors, seizures, low blood sugar
 - Never use dog products on cats
 - Wide margin of safety in dogs

Only use products labeled for the species you are planning to treat



Deworming Medications

- Ivermectin
 - Products designed for dogs have a wide margin of safety
 - Cattle and horse products should not be used in dogs due to higher concentration
 - Toxicity may cause blindness, difficulty walking, seizures and death
- Pyrantel
 - Common deworming medication in dogs and cats
 - Wide margin of safety in dogs and cat

ABCB-1 (MDR1) mutation

- Alters ability to absorb, distribute and metabolize certain drugs in the body

<https://vcpl.vetmed.wsu.edu/docs/librariesprovider17/default-document-library/vcplflier.pdf>

<https://vcpl.vetmed.wsu.edu/problem-drugs>

- “Ivermectin sensitive breeds”
 - Collie, Australian Shepherd,
 - Long-haired Whippet, etc.



ABCB-1 (MDR1) mutation

- Ivermectin
- Selamectin
- Milbemycin
- Opioids (loperamide, butorphanol)
- Acepromazine
- Certain chemotherapeutics

Disinfectants

- Corrosive:
 - Most undiluted professional cleaning products
 - Oven cleaners
 - Drain openers
 - Toilet bowl cleaners
 - +/- Undiluted bleach
- Irritants
 - Ready to use diluted cleaners
 - Most diluted bleach products



Summary

- Keep items out of reach for animals
 - Food
 - Medications/supplements
 - Cleaners
 - Rodenticides/insecticides
- Keep record of products used in your facility
 - Medications: Quantity and strength
 - Full names of cleaning products
- The dose and concentration play a large role in determining toxicity

Pet Poison Helpline

Thank you!

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