

Signs your pet has been in contact with a Poison and what to do

Muscle tremors or seizures

Vomiting and or diarrhoea, sometimes with blood

Excessive salivation - drooling or foaming

Redness of skin, ears, eyes

Mental depression or excitement

Bleeding

Ulceration or blisters of the mouth or skin

Excessive pawing at the mouth, excessive licking

Swelling (i.e. of a limb or face, commonly seen with insect bites and stings)

Elevated or depressed body temperature

WHAT TO DO

Call your veterinarian immediately.

Have the following information ready:

Exact name of toxin ingested, inhaled, or absorbed.

Approximately how much of the toxin was ingested.

How long ago you suspect that your pet may have been poisoned

Approximate weight of your pet.

What signs your pet is showing -- vomiting, tremors, salivation, etc., and general observations -- such as colour of the gums, respiratory rate, heart rate, and if possible, body temperature.

If the poison is known, take the box or package with you.

Do NOT induce vomiting without consulting your veterinarian.

Some toxins are caustic, and vomiting will only increase damage. Some toxins need to be neutralized with activated charcoal, others need to be expelled by vomiting, and still others have antidotes.

Topical toxins need to be rinsed (skin, eye) with large amounts of water.