

Care Vet Group newsletter

ISSUE 6

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thank you



Rebecca Ireland

Hugh's News



Dr. Hugh McIntosh

Thank you to those dedicated readers who have sent through some touching stories about their special companions. The first of our readers My Dog / My Cat stories will be published next month in the September edition.

Soon we will be launching a promotion to feature twelve "Pet Pin Ups" in our 2010 calendar. Start taking photos of your precious friends and email them to me at rebecca@carevetgroup.com.au. Stay tuned and check our website for future information.

By now many of you may have noticed the introduction of our nurses into the consultation rooms.

We have developed the Outpatient Nurse role to increase the level of care and attention both you and your pet receive. Our surgeries have been divided into "zones" so that our nursing staff are able to specialise in different areas e.g. surgical, pharmaceutical, animal care and husbandry, and client and patient relations.

Next month we will outline each of these zones and provide an insight to how they work and what the nurses do within them.

the scoop on poop



Dr. Daniel van Geuns

As unpleasant as dealing with faeces is, it provides us with a valuable diagnostic and screening tool. Getting to know the nature of your pets stool will help you to identify abnormal faeces, which may be the first sign associated with a number of illnesses, including intestinal worms, viral and bacterial infections, digestive and absorptive abnormalities, to name a few. Be on the lookout for changes in colour and consistency, blood, mucus, or the presence of worms.

The current intestinal worming recommendation for dogs and cats is every three months. However, we encourage you to forgo an intestinal all wormer now and then in favor of faecal analysis. If you can bring us a fresh stool sample (within 24 hours),

we can analyse it for the presence of worm eggs, and adjust your worming regime accordingly. Results are generally available within 24 hours.

Getting in the habit of bringing some "poo" with your pet for a six monthly health check is a great idea.

So don't just "scoop the poop", have a look, and let us know if you notice any changes or have any concerns!



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Visit our website to learn how to best care for your pet >
www.carevetgroup.com.au



grooming gossip!



Jessica Dunlop

Bathing your dog is an important part of responsible pet ownership. A clean dog is a happy dog. Although excessive bathing can cause skin conditions, so unless your dog is dirty or has a skin condition it is generally not necessary to bathe your dog more than once a fortnight.

Care Veterinary Group have a new range of shampoo and conditioners so call to make an appointment for a nice warm bath and try our new shampoos.



My Dog / My Cat

Toby, an 8 week old Jack Russell Terrier, recently came to see us because he was very lethargic, and had increasing difficulty breathing - he was really fighting for his life. After speaking to Toby's owner we learnt that he may have eaten some rat bait, a suspicion that was confirmed with a blood test. The active ingredient in rat bait is an anticoagulant, and was causing Toby's blood to stop clotting properly.

After a few days in intensive care, during which time Toby received oxygen therapy, blood and plasma transfusions, intravenous fluid therapy, vitamin K supplementation, and the draining of blood from around the lungs, Toby was feeling much better and has since made a full recovery.

Both dogs and cats can be affected by ingestion of bait directly, or by eating rodents that have been poisoned. It is a very serious condition, but as was the case with Toby, timely intervention can prove life saving.

Rat baits work by inhibiting the production of Vitamin K1, which is vital for blood clotting - without it the affected animal can bleed to death. A single large dose of the bait is not as dangerous as multiple small volumes.

After eating bait, the affected animal may not show signs of illness for a number of days. Signs will be associated with the failure of blood to clot, and may include breathing

difficulty, blood in the urine or faeces, bruising under the skin, lameness, pale gums and lethargy, amongst others.

If you suspect your pet may have eaten rat bait, it is important to contact your vet immediately. We will commonly give such animals an injection to make them vomit, however this treatment will only be effective if given within a few hours of ingestion.

If you don't witness your pet eating the bait, but notice signs that may indicate rat bait poisoning, then you need to get them to the vet as soon as possible, taking care in moving and transportation.

Treatment will depend upon the severity of the condition, but ranges from simple vitamin K1 supplementation in a mild case, to blood transfusions etc as needed for Toby. In severe cases the condition may be fatal despite intensive care. Please contact us if you suspect your pet may be affected, remembering to bring us the rat bait packet if possible.

A big THANKYOU! to Nero, the Great Dane, who gave blood in order to save Toby's life!



Danielle Kenny



Dr Daniel van Geuns

Worm Month

Worm Month highlights the dangers of worms in dogs and cats

Designed to remind pet owners of the potential dangers of not worming their dogs and cats throughout the year, Worm Month aims to educate pet owners on the need for a regular worming routine.

Easy to forget, simple to apply

We know it's easy to forget to regularly worm pets throughout the year. But because worming treatments only kill the worms in your pet at the time of dosing and do not act like a vaccine, it is vital to keep up a regular worming routine.

It's not just your pets that are at risk

Dogs and cats infected with worms pose a potential threat to your family - especially children. Because of the close bond we share with our animals, some of the gastrointestinal worms that affect your pet can be transmitted to humans with potentially devastating effects. Children are particularly at risk as they can easily come in contact with worm larvae that can penetrate skin, causing serious scarring and inflammation. Or, in worst cases, the larvae can cause more serious problems such as blindness.

It's crucial that you continue to worm your pets

That's why we are focussing on raising awareness of the need to worm through Worm Month.

Worm Month is devoted to reminding your about the importance of worming all year round to give your pets the best health care and protection

Worm Month



or the whole family. We know that worming your pets with tablets can be frustrating, difficult and downright painful. It puts you and your pet through unnecessary stress and discomfort. That's why we can now offer you the latest breakthroughs in stress-free worming for your pets. Modern worming treatments are extremely effective and easy to apply - so easy, you can even administer them at home. Come and visit the practice now to hear more about the stress-free ways to protect your entire family from the dangers of worms.

If you have any further questions on Worming your Pets or Worm Month, please contact Care Vet Group.

www.bayeranimal.com.au



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