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first
aid

Life threatening emergencies

Unconsciousness	Severe bleeding
Poisoning	Snake bite
Repeat or prolonged seizure	
Difficulty breathing with blue or white gums	
Gastric torsion (presents as bloated stomach)	

Emergencies requiring immediate attention

Prolapsed eye	Single seizure
Bleeding	Fractures/dislocations
Large skin wounds	Difficulty giving birth
Tick paralysis	Severe straining to urinate
Snake bite	Prolonged vomiting/diarrhoea

Minor emergencies

Insect stings	Small skin wounds
Abscesses	Slight lameness
Broken nails	Toad poisoning
Allergic reactions	
Short term vomiting/diarrhoea	
Aural haematoma (swollen ear)	

Chandlers Animal Hospital

> phone 4636 2233
> email chandlers@carevetgroup.com.au
Cnr Alderley & Ramsay Sts Toowoomba

South Toowoomba Vets

> phone 4635 3616
> email sthtmba@carevetgroup.com.au
366 Stenner St Toowoomba

This brochure is intended as a guide to aid you in emergency situations with your pet. If you have any doubts about procedures discussed please seek more detailed information from your veterinary surgeon.

There are also books available which have far greater detail about the more common ailments that may require first aid.

The Animal Emergency Centre in Brisbane publishes a book entitled "Guide to first aid for your pet". This has excellent practical information and may be purchased from Care Vet Group. Please enquire for further information.



Caring is our commitment!

www.carevetgroup.com.au



first aid

Aims of first aid

Save lives

Relieve pain

Prevent the situation deteriorating

Rules of first aid

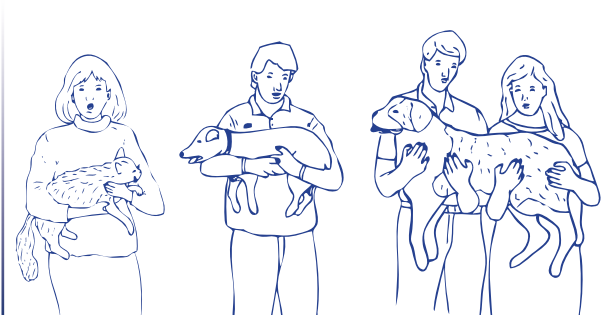
Don't panic

Maintain airways

Control bleeding

Contact your veterinary surgeon

Methods of carrying injured animals



24 hour emergency service

At Care Veterinary Group we offer a 24 hour emergency service for critical and urgent incidents. This means you are able to contact your vet after hours by ringing our normal phone number and follow the prompts. This will allow you to get immediate at home advice and the vet will meet you at the surgery, if required.

It is always better to bring an animal to the surgery as equipment and medication needed to treat pets that are seriously ill are not usually available for house calls.

Avoid getting bitten

Most injured animals will be anxious and in pain. They can bite even if they are not normally aggressive.

Ensure you do not get bitten. This may mean covering the your pet's head with a blanket or having someone assist you.

Bringing them in a cage or bed/box may limit handling risks.

ABC > airways, breathing, circulation

- a AIRWAYS** > Make sure airways are clear of mucous, blood, foreign bodies, tongue (take care to ensure you are not bitten by doing this).
- b BREATHING** > Look for signs of breathing. Chest rising and falling, noise, feel for exhaled air.
- c CIRCULATION** > Feel for pulse (femoral - inside of hind leg) or heart beating (chest).

Checking the your pet's gum colour and type of breathing are important in assessing their state. Artificial respiration can be carried out if not breathing, however use caution whenever close to your pet's mouth. Mouth to mouth and nose in small dogs and cats. Mouth to nose in larger dogs. Close mouth with one hand. One breath every 5 seconds. Cardiac massage can be carried out if no pulse or heart beat is detected. One compression every second then a breath. Control bleeding by applying pressure with fingers, pressure bandage or towel. Only use tourniquets as a last resort.