

Bleeding

note! - clotting problem - possible exposure to rat poison

Action Steps:

- + Arterial bleeding is an immediately life-threatening situation. Arterial blood will be bright red, will bleed in “spurts”/ will be difficult to stop and requires **IMMEDIATE VETERINARY ATTENTION!**
- + For any type of bleeding, place a clean cloth or sterile gauze over the injured area.
- + Apply direct pressure for AT LEAST 5 to 7 minutes to stop bleeding.

Don't apply a tourniquet unless absolutely necessary.

Unconsciousness

possible reasons: drowning, electrocution, trauma, drugs

Action Steps:

- + In case of drowning, clear the lungs of fluid, lift animal's hind quarters high overhead and squeeze chest firmly until fluid stops draining.
- + In case of electrical shock, DO NOT touch the pet until it is no longer in contact with the electrical source.
- + In case of airway obstruction, the object will need to be gently removed. (see “Choking”)
- + If animal is not breathing and has no pulse start CPR. (see “CPR”)

Vomiting

possible causes: poisoning, injury, motion sickness, disease, fear, parasites

Action Steps:

- + Examine vomit for blood or other clues as to cause.
- + If poisoning is suspected, CALL THE POISON HOTLINE, bring a sample of the suspected poison, preferably in its original packaging, to the veterinarian.
- + Gently press on stomach to detect any abdominal pain.
- + Withhold all food and water until a veterinarian has been consulted.

Abdominal pain, enlarged stomach and unproductive vomiting are serious signs. CALL YOUR VETERINARIAN IMMEDIATELY!

Choking

possible causes: foreign object, allergic reaction

Action Steps:

- + Gently pull tongue forward & inspect mouth & throat. If a foreign object is spotted, hold the mouth open & attempt to remove it by hand, with tweezers or a pair of small pliers. Take care not to push the object farther down the animal's throat.
- + If the animal is not breathing, start CPR. (see “CPR”)
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