

Pet Emergency 101



Emergencies involving your pet are upsetting, no matter the timing. Being prepared with basic pet first aid knowledge can help save your pet's life.

Recognise the signs of a pet emergency



Difficulty breathing

Laboured breathing, wheezing, or gasping for air.



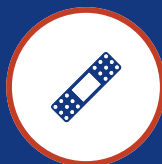
Severe bleeding

Uncontrollable bleeding from any part of the body.



Changes in consciousness

Inability to stand or sudden loss of consciousness.



Trauma

Cuts, wounds, or injuries from accidents, falls, or any sudden impact.



Seizures

Uncontrolled convulsions or spasms.



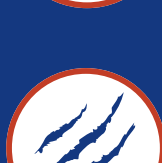
Persistent Vomiting or Diarrhea

Sever vomiting or diarrhea that contains blood or lasts for an extended period.



Visible pain or discomfort

Crying out, restlessness, or aggression due to severe discomfort.



Changes in behaviour

Sudden disorientation, confusion, or abnormal behaviour.



Difficulties urinating

Straining to urinate, regular unsuccessful toilet attempts.

Take immediate action

Stay calm: Your pet can sense your emotions. Staying calm helps keep them at ease.

Ensure safety: Ensure the safety of yourself, your pet, and others nearby. If your pet is in a dangerous area, move them to safety carefully.

Assess the situation: Quickly evaluate the severity of the emergency. Look for signs of distress or injury.

Provide basic first aid: Administer basic first aid if necessary. This may include controlling bleeding or flushing dirty wounds.

Seek professional help: Go to your nearest emergency vet for medical assistance. Transport your pet safely, keeping them as comfortable as possible.

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Our locations are open 365 days, including public holidays.

 **Animal Referral & Emergency Network**

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Common pet emergencies and responses



Follow these basic first aid steps until you can access help from a vet. Always contact a vet if you suspect your pet is injured or unwell.

Emergency	First Aid Action
Cuts and wounds	If the wound is actively bleeding, you can apply gauze or bandaging to reduce bleeding. If the wound is dirty, you can flush the wound with saline if your pet is able to tolerate it. Remember, your pet may be more sensitive or reactive when in pain.
Fractured/broken bones	Wrap your pet in a blanket, limit their movement and take them to your nearest emergency vet for treatment. Manipulation of the fracture will cause pain. It is safer to leave stabilisation to your vet, attempting it on your own could result in your pet biting or scratching. It could also cause them further tissue trauma and potentially catastrophic bleeding.
Snake bites	Seek veterinary care immediately. There is no need to try and identify the snake or take photos, vets use multivalent snake venom.
Tick bites	Tick bites can be fatal, seek veterinary assistance immediately. Many of the signs can be subtle and if missed your pet can quickly deteriorate.
Poisoning	Remove poison from your pet's reach and wash their mouth. Transport your pet to the nearest vet and take any packaging with you.
Seizures	Cushion your pet's head and move away from anything that may be a danger (eg. fireplace, table legs). If the seizure lasts over 30 seconds, visit a vet immediately, even if your pet is still seizing.
Vehicle trauma	Apply pressure with gauze to reduce bleeding. Place a supportive surface, like a cardboard box under your pet to support their spine. Wrap your pet in a blanket to keep them warm and transport to car / vet gently.
Burns	Flush the burnt area with cool running water, then transport your pet to a vet. If a chemical burn has occurred, bring the product to the clinic if safe to do so. Do not apply any ointments to the burns.
Heat stress	Provide cool drinking water and transport your pet to the vet clinic in an air-conditioned vehicle (if possible) immediately. Delays in treatment can significantly reduce chances of survival.

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