



When Minutes Matter: YOUR GUIDE TO COMMON PET EMERGENCIES

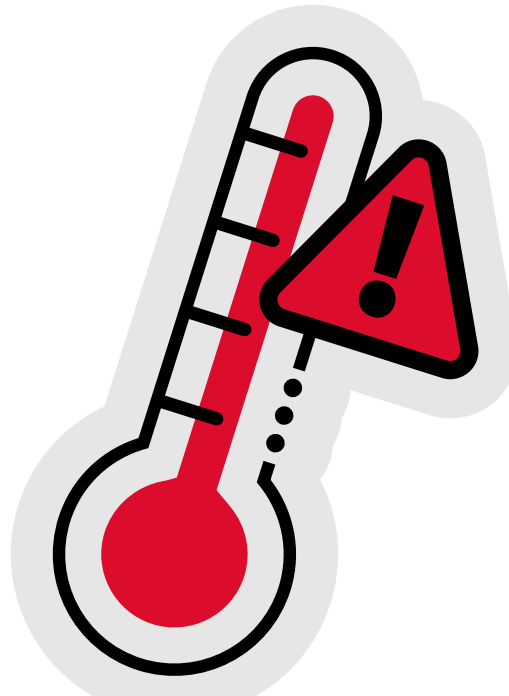


Emergency advice from Dr Zara Kennedy,
Head of UK Veterinary Out-of-Hours at Vets Now

HEATSTROKE

Know the signs

- Excessive panting
- Drooling
- Bright red gums
- Weakness or collapse



Act quickly

- Wet Before Vet – start cooling your dog immediately using cold water
- Continue cooling during transport

ZARA'S TIP:

"If you think your dog has heatstroke, don't wait until you reach the vet to start cooling them. Wet Before Vet could make all the difference."

SEIZURES

Know the signs

- Twitching or paddling
- Loss of consciousness
- Disorientation afterwards



Act quickly

- Reduce noise & light
- Move away from hazards
- Time, and if possible, video the seizure
- Contact your vet immediately if seizures last more than 2 minutes

BLEEDING & WOUNDS

Know the signs

- Heavy bleeding
- Deep wounds
- Bite injuries
- Bleeding that won't stop



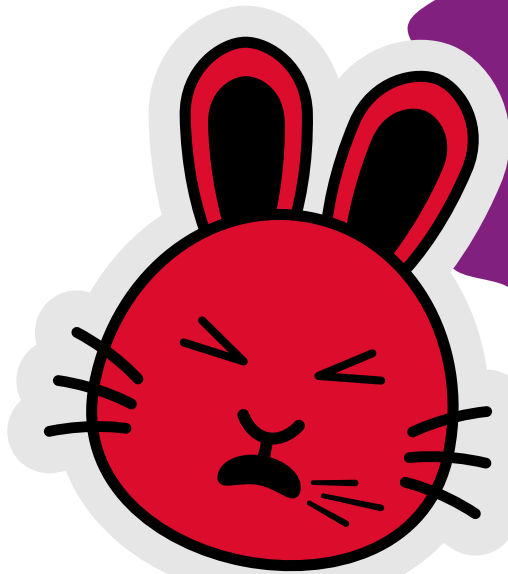
Act quickly

- Apply pressure to bleeding wounds
- Minimise movement and keep them calm
- Don't remove embedded objects

CHOKING

Know the signs

- Gagging
- Pawing at the mouth
- Difficulty breathing
- Blue or pale gums



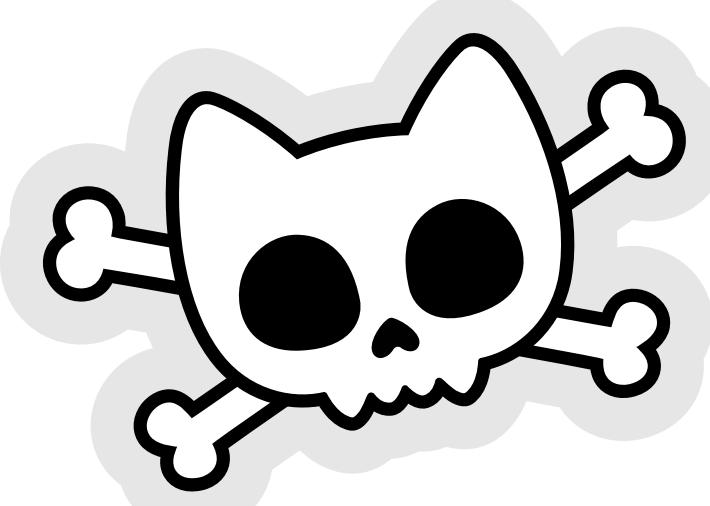
Act quickly

- Check for an obvious obstruction if safe
- Don't put fingers in the mouth
- Contact your vet immediately

POISONING & INGESTIONS

Know the signs

- Vomiting
- Drooling
- Trembling
- Lethargy
- Difficulty breathing



Act quickly

- Remove your pet from source if safe
- Keep packaging/details
- Don't feed your pet anything unless advised
- Contact your vet as soon as possible

ZARA'S TIP:

"Keep packaging details so you can relay this information accurately to your vet."

UNRESPONSIVE PET

Know the signs

- Unresponsive
- Not breathing normally
- No obvious heartbeat



Act quickly

- Contact your vet immediately
- Check for an obvious airway obstruction if safe to do so
- For large dogs use a blanket or large towel as stretcher to help carry to transport to the vet

Try to remain calm in any situation

Pet PARED

Before an emergency happens

- Save your daytime vet's number
- Know where your nearest Vets Now clinic is
- Keep this guide somewhere easy to find
- Share it with everyone in your household
- Trust your instincts - if you're worried, seek veterinary advice

Made for emergencies

Know the signs. Act quickly. Know we're here.

Every emergency is different, but recognising the signs early and acting quickly and calmly can make all the difference.

When to seek urgent veterinary care

If your pet shows any of these signs, contact your usual vet immediately. At nights, weekends and bank holidays, contact Vets Now when your daytime vet is closed.



ZARA'S FINAL TIP:

One of the biggest mistakes I see is owners waiting to see if their pet improves. If you're worried, contact your vet. Acting early can make all the difference."

Because when minutes matter, we're here.