

OUR TEAM:

Lead Vet:

Elise Lenske

Vets:

Melissa Alley

Sherry Chiang

Sue Crow

Mary-Ruth Doole

Sophie Dunn

Anna Jolly

Jake Kim

Kylie Kim

Milan Knezevic

Itsuki Mueller

Emma Oliver

Asha Reddy

Holly Rice

Jennifer Tseng

Head Nurse:

Katy Lodge

Nurses:

Christine Boldero

Stacey Brodrick

Angela Drower

Jec Foeken

Anthony Gonzaga

Kritika Gopal

Nicole Naidu

Alyce Parry

Victoria Smith

Rachael Turner

Kim Watson

Manager:

Jedda Ford

Accounts:

Katy Lodge

PR:

Becky Allan

CHOCOLATE TOXICITY

It's nearly Halloween, and that means chocolate and candy! While exciting for us, this can be a dangerous time for our fur babies.

Chocolate is a sweet treat for humans but, as you likely know, it is toxic to dogs.

Chocolate comes from the roasted seed of Theobroma cacao, which contains caffeine and theobromine. Humans can metabolize these components, but dogs can't, **leading to various complications such as:**

- diarrhoea;
- vomiting;
- seizures;
- muscle tremors;
- heart irregularities
- internal bleeding.

The toxicity derives from the cacao content, so darker, more bitter chocolate is more dangerous than sweeter chocolates with lower cocoa content. However, even small amounts can be dangerous or even fatal.

Signs of toxicity to look out for include:

- diarrhoea or/and vomiting
- excitability
- drinking a lot
- high blood pressure
- increased heart rate
- seizures

If you see your dog consume chocolate, or you observe these signs and are worried about your dog's wellbeing, ALWAYS contact your veterinarian.

Getting a check-up even if you are unsure is always a good idea, as there is more a vet can do for your fur baby in the early stages before the cocoa has been fully absorbed.

In terms of non-chocolate candies, some of the sweeteners found in candies are toxic to dogs, however a larger threat is posed by their wrappers as they can cause blockages. If you suspect that your dog has consumed something that they shouldn't have it is important that you see a vet so that they can ensure the items will pass with little difficulty, and if this is not the case they can take emergency action to ensure your pet's health.

This advice does not substitute a proper consultation with a veterinarian and is intended only as a guide. We recommend you follow all advice as given by your veterinarian and contact them immediately with any concerns. You must follow medications as dispensed by your veterinary clinic and monitor your pet closely during their recovery period noting any changes and contacting your veterinary clinic as needed.

OUR SERVICES

After hour consultations. We are a full-service Emergency Animal Care Hospital available to help in all Afterhours Veterinary Situations.

Halloween can be a stressful time for our pets. Unlike us, they won't understand why there are so many strangers dressed up and wearing masks approaching their home. There may be noises and activities that are disorienting for an animal. It is always a good idea to keep your pets inside away from the front door on Halloween, especially if you know you live in an area with lots of trick or treaters. A room away from the front door, or a crate they are comfortable in are always a good idea if you have a skittish or less confident pet. This also ensures that your pet won't escape if a trick or treater accidentally leaves a gate unlocked.

DID YOU KNOW?

Black cats are associated with Halloween because in the Middle Ages people believed that black cats were spiritual entities that assisted witches in their nefarious deeds.

DID YOU KNOW?

In 2016 the most popular Halloween costume for pets was a pumpkin, closely followed by a hot dog. An American group surveyed about 7,000 pet owners to get this data.

Note: If you plan to dress your pet up for Halloween, remember to make sure they are comfortable and don't feel restricted or stressed by their costume.



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- Oxygen therapy
- Blood transfusions
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- ECG monitoring
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- Advanced pain management
- Nutritional support
- Cremations

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- Haematology and Chemistry Lab equipment
- Pulse-Ox
- Bair-hugger and heat mats for warming patients
- Blood pressure Doppler
- Oxygen therapy set up
- Ophthalmoscopes
- Microchip Scanner
- Emergency trolley

