

## HOME CARE OF ACUTE DIARRHEAS IN DOGS

Diarrhea: the passage of loose or liquid feces at an increased number of times per day is a common problem of dogs and cats. The diarrhea that occurs for a short time is usually self-limited and need only be treated in a supportive way.

1. Withhold all food intake for 8 - 24 hours from onset of diarrhea.
2. Fresh water should be available at all times
3. Pepto-Bismol is effective as an anti-diarrhea medication. You may give 1 teaspoon per 10 pounds body weight of animal, 4-6 times daily. Your dog may accept it better if it is kept in the refrigerator and given cold. You may also contact our office for a syringe to help give it by mouth. Pepto-Bismol tablets may also be used: give 1/2 tablet per 10 pounds of body weight, 4-6 times daily.
4. Kaopectate is another anti-diarrhea medication you may have at home. Since 2004 the formulation of this diarrhea medicine is the same as Pepto-Bismol. It should be given at the same dosage as Pepto.
5. Imodium a/d or other Loperimide 2mg tabs(or oral solution 1mg/5cc) are good anti-diarrhea medicine for simple diarrheas.  
Dogs: Tablets: 1 per 40 lbs; Liquid: 1 ml per 4lbs 2 - 3 times daily.
6. After 8 - 24 hours, offer a bland diet:
  - a) A homemade diet of 4 parts boiled rice or skinless boiled potatoes to 1 part boiled chicken or hamburger (fat removed).
  - b) or, Hill's i/d canned food and other special diets are available at our office.
  - c) offer 3-4 small meals a day
  - d) as stools become firm, you may go back to the regular diet, mixing increasing amount of the regular food into each meal over the next few days.
7. Additional Suggestions:
  1. Offer pet Gatorade or other electrolyte replacement drink.
  2. Don't act upset about accidents in house.

PLEASE NOTE:

**CONTACT THE OFFICE FOR AN APPOINTMENT AS SOON AS POSSIBLE!**

- ◆ If the vomiting is present
- ◆ If diarrhea continues for more than 3-4 days
- ◆ If your pet is not drinking water
- ◆ If your pet is getting depressed in attitude
- ◆ Blood is noted in diarrhea