

**National Animal Poison Control
Center**

(900) 680-0000 . . \$20 for five minutes;
\$2.95/minute thereafter
(800) 548-2423 . . \$30/case; credit card only



- Your name, address and phone number
- The substance your pet has been exposed to (if you know).
- The amount of substance and time lapsed since exposure.
- A description of the problems your pet is experiencing.

General Health of Your Cat:

Rectal Temp. - 100 - 103 is the normal range (average is 101.5)

Pulse - 110-140/minute during rest (can be taken inside the thigh where it meets the body or by the heart)

Breathing - 20-30 breaths per minute during rest

Nose - should be cool and damp (with no persistent discharge)

Gums - should be light pink (not pale or dry)

Eyes - should be bright and clear (no persistent watery or colored discharge/no redness or protrusions of the third eyelid/persistent dilation of pupil)

Signs of Illness (you may want to consult/visit your veterinarian):

Fever

Apathy

Loss of Appetite

Weight Loss

Diarrhea (stool should normally be brown and firm)

Constipation

Vomiting

Enlarged Lymph Nodes (can check at the edge of the jawbone and below the ear for lump)

Pale mucous Membranes (in mouth)

Dehydration (loss of skin elasticity and dry gums)

Failure to Eat for 24 hours

Failure to Drink Water

Persistent Discharge from Eyes or Nose

A Few First Aid Tips:

If your cat is not eating: In the interim (if not an emergency situation) until you can get your cat to your vet you can give Nutri-Cal to your cat to provide supplemental caloric and nutritional intake. Nutri-Cal can also be given when your cat is not eating during stressful times.

If your cat is not drinking: In the interim (if not an emergency situation and severely dehydrated) until you can get your cat to your vet you can use an eye dropper and give a couple dropperfuls of water three to four times per day.

If your cat has ingested something you think can safely pass through: you can give laxatone daily for three days or so (as long as your cat is eating, drinking and eliminating normally) and monitor the situation closely. See or consult your vet if there is a concern or if problems occur. If there is a question of a blockage or other similar problem a blood panel should be done immediately (and get the results also immediately as time is of the essence) and a barium x-ray should also be done to assess the situation. Your cat may be dehydrated and need iv fluids.

If your cat has ingested a poisonous or toxic substance/plant you should call your vet immediately. If you can't contact your vet and your cat has not swallowed an acid, alkali, solvent, or heavy duty cleaner, a petroleum product, tranquilizers, sharp object, is severely depressed or comatose or if more than two hours have passed since the poison was swallowed then vomiting can be induced by:

- * Hydrogen peroxide 3% (most effective): one teaspoon every ten minutes: repeat three times;
- * One-fourth teaspoonful of salt, placed at the back of the tongue; or
- * Syrup of Ipecac (one teaspoonful per ten pounds body weight).

If your cat has ingested something you think will not safely pass through or injure your cat: see your vet immediately.