



Minnesota Chapter of NAVHDA

Emergency First Aid Kit

1. Saline (use to flush eyes or wounds)
2. KY jelly (use to lube rectal thermometer or to fill lacerations to keep them moist)
3. Alcohol (put on paw pads if over heated)
4. Scissors
5. Needle nose and / or flat nose pliers with cutter (cut fish hooks, pull porcupine quills)
6. Tweezers
7. Rectal thermometer (over 103 degrees is a concern)
8. Roll gauze (can use as a muzzle if needed)
9. Medical tape
10. Latex gloves
11. Triple antibiotic ointment
12. Gauze pads
13. Telfa pads
14. Q -tips
15. Cotton balls
16. Vet wrap
17. Wound cleaner (any cleaner with chlorahexidine is preferred)
18. Fly ointment
19. Peroxide (use 1 or 2 oz to induce vomiting when needed)
20. Pad tough
21. Ear cleaner
22. Muzzle
23. Quick stop (for minor bleeding, torn or broken nails)
24. Dial soap – anti bacterial (can use as a wound cleaner)
25. Ice pack
26. Bottled water (good clean water source – can use to flush wounds)
27. Hydro cortisone cream (apply to bug bites, bee stings)



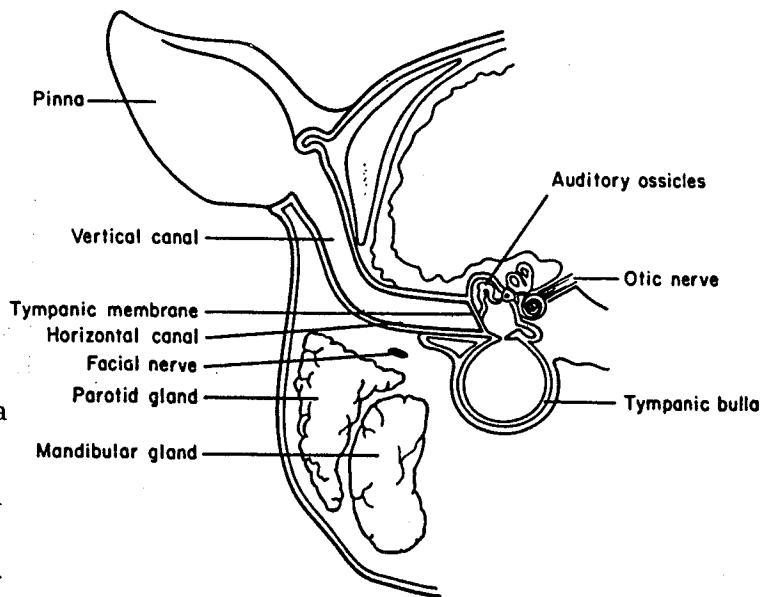
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Handling Common Emergencies

- First and foremost, stay calm!!!!!!
- **Lacerations:** Clean the wound with wound cleaner, not peroxide, (peroxide will slow the healing process for the wound). Then fill the wound with KY jelly or an antibiotic ointment. Apply a light bandage if able. Most small straight cuts will heal on their own. However, the angular cuts or flaps will most likely need to be cared for by your veterinarian.
- **Puncture wounds:** Puncture wounds in the chest cavity are the most serious. Chest wounds that result in a sucking action must be sealed off as best you can to prevent a collapsed lung. Taping a small piece of plastic bag over the puncture is your best option. Puncture wounds in the abdominal area should be covered with gauze and wrapped with vet tape to hold it in place. A dog with puncture wounds in the chest or abdominal area must be taken to the veterinarian immediately. Puncture wounds in muscle areas should be flushed with a wound cleaner, covered with gauze, and wrapped with vet tape. The dog should be taken to the veterinarian within 24 hours.
- **Bleeding:** Control bleeding by placing direct pressure to the wound with your hand or a pressure bandage. Place the bandage (gauze pad with Vet wrap around the limb/body) snug enough for pressure, but not tight enough to cut off circulation. Seek veterinarian attention for all cuts through the entire thickness of the skin or those that bleed excessively.
- **Shock:** Shock may be brought on by a loss of blood or severe trauma. Signs of shock include depression, decreased body temperature, and grayish gums. Keep the dog as quiet as possible, warm, and seek veterinary attention immediately.
- **Eye injuries:** You should always inspect the eye for seeds and other foreign matter under the eye lids after the dog has been running in the field. Be sure to inspect the lid in the corner of the eye as well. Most debris can be flushed out with Saline. Never use a foreign object to try to remove the debris. Also, never apply any medication to an eye without seeking medical attention first. Keep the eye moist.
- **Fish hooks:** Push through the skin, cut off the barb, and then pull back through the skin the same way it went in.
- **Porcupine quills:** Remove as many as possible by grasping them with a pliers as close to the skin as possible. As a makeshift tool for porcupine quills, if you don't have a pliers at hand, is to use two coins between your fingers to grip the quill. Use a quick and firm motion to pull them out. It is not necessary to cut the end of the quill off before pulling it out. Use a muzzle if needed to prevent bites. Obviously, quills near the eye or an area that would allow them to enter the skull present the most danger and must be removed. See your veterinarian immediately if you are unable to remove any of the quills. They will continue to work their way deeper into the dog's body if not removed. Use wound cleaner to clean the area after the quills have been removed.
- **Fractures:** Fractures are no immediate life or death threat to the dog. Stabilize the limb with a stick, rolled up newspaper, etc. Wrap loosely with gauze and the vet wrap. DO NOT wrap tightly because of the swelling that will occur after the break. Keep the dog as quiet as possible during transport to the veterinarian.

- **Snake bites:** Take the dog to the veterinarian if you are not sure what type of snake bit the dog. Wash the bite as best you can with an antibacterial soap only if you know it was not a poisonous snake. Washing will drive the venom deeper into the wound.
- **Skunk off:** Mix when needed peroxide, baking soda, and dish soap (approximately equal amounts) together to achieve a thick solution. Lather the dog liberally with the solution and allow it to soak for 5 or 10 minutes before washing it off.
- **Heat Stroke:** Early signs include grayish tongue, lips, gums, or rectum, excessive panting, staring or anxious expression, does not obey commands, warm and dry skin, rapid heartbeat, vomiting, high body temperature (anything over 103 degrees when taken rectally), staggering or loss of control over the hind quarters, or shock and collapse. Take the dog to shade, and soak him with cool water. Do **NOT** use extremely cold or iced water. This will cause blood vessels to constrict and will stop the heat from escaping.
You can apply ice packs to the areas underneath his front legs, and to the groin area for rapid blood cooling. Give your dog enough water to wet his mouth and throat, but do **NOT** allow your dog to drink copious amounts! You may also spray the paw pads with rubbing alcohol. This causes immediate evaporation to help cool them off. Note: do not apply alcohol to other parts of the body as this may cause other problems. Do **NOT** cover your dog, even with a cold towel. This will prevent the heat from escaping.
- **Burns:** Immerse the affected part in cold water. Keep ice on the area as much as possible. Don't apply any medication.
- **Muzzles:** Sometimes a muzzle may be needed to prevent bites. You can make a field muzzle out of gauze from your first aid kit, your boot lace, or a lead. Start under the jaw, cross the material on top of the muzzle, wrap to the bottom of the jaw and cross again, then wrap the ends behind the ears and tie them off.

EAR CARE



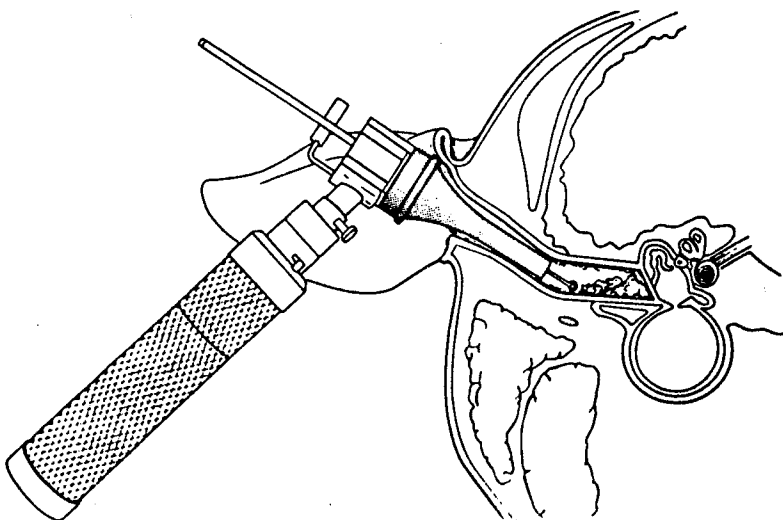
Ear canal infection/inflammation or otitis externa is exceedingly common in our pet dogs and cats. There are many causes of this disease. Among them are earmites, foreign body penetration of the ear canal, pendulous ears, narrow ear canals, excess hair in ear canals and breed predisposition. Commonly affected breeds include Cocker Spaniels, Springer Spaniels, Golden Retrievers, German Shepherds and Poodles.

There also exist systemic diseases which may lead to otitis externa. Among them are seborrhea, allergies, hypothyroidism and nutritional deficiencies.

Once the ear canal is irritated and inflamed by whatever cause, the glands located within the ear canal react. They do so by producing excessive quantities of waxes and oils. This provides ideal growth material for bacteria and yeast. Combined with the dark moist environment of very long ear canals, this results in a self-perpetuating infection.

To stop this process the following must be accomplished:

1. The ear canal is examined, swabbed and sampled to diagnose the type of infection present
2. A thorough and complete cleaning of the ear canal is achieved
3. Appropriate medication is given as directed
4. Any underlying causes must be corrected
5. A program of maintenance care must be started.



Direct visualization with total patient cooperation is required to clear all debris from your pet's ear canal.

A serious ear problem requires long term maintenance care. You can clean your pet's ears at home as follows:

1. Use an ear cleaning solution like Nolvasan Otic. Fill the ear canal with the solution and massage base of ear canal while extending the ear at a 45° angle. Allow ear to soak for 5-7 minutes. Dry ear with cotton balls.
2. Apply medication as directed.
3. Have ears rechecked by the vet as directed.