



When Is It An Emergency?

If your pet is experiencing any of the following, it may represent a life threatening situation requiring immediate veterinary care: These are only examples of some of the most common conditions and are not intended to be all inclusive.

Rule of Thumb: When in Doubt, call your Veterinarian

- Your pet has experienced some kind of traumatic event, such as being hit by a car, struck by a blunt object, falling more than a few feet, or has experience head or neck trauma.
- Your pet is bleeding and you can't stop the flow of blood or you suspect blunt trauma to the chest or abdomen, which can cause internal bleeding.
- Your pet's breathing pattern is abnormally fast or slow and are unable to feel a heartbeat.
- If your pet has been hit by a car – even if he appears to be acting normally - you need get him checked right away.
- Your pet is disoriented or unconscious and won't wake up.
- Your pet has been vomiting or has had diarrhea for more than 24 hours.
- Your pet is vomiting blood or has bloody diarrhea.
- Your pet is having trouble breathing, gagging, or coughing suggesting airway obstruction.
- Your pet has had or is having a seizure.
- Your pet is straining to urinate, or is unable to urinate. Especially male cats because of the high incidence of urinary obstruction.
- Your pet shows signs of extreme pain, such as whining, shaking and refusing to socialize. Inactivity or loss of appetite is sometimes the only sign you may observe during a painful episode.
- Your pet is experiencing acute abdominal or back pain and yelps when you touch their abdomen or back. Commonly they will show pain with arching their back or refusing food.
- Your pet collapses or suddenly can't stand up.
- Your pet begins bumping into things or suddenly becomes disoriented.
- Your cat has bluish or white gums or tongue.
- Your pet has nearly drowned.
- Your pet has been bitten by something poisonous such as a snake, scorpion, spider, etc.
- Your pet has suffered heat stroke.
- Your pet has ingested poison or was overdosed with medication.

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