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## Basic First Aid Help

### BLEEDING



- **Direct Pressure:** apply firm pressure to the wound, do not disturb clots once they have formed and add extra layers if blood has soaked through!
- **Elevation:** gently elevate so the wound is above the heart.
- **Pressure on the Supplying Artery:** apply finger or thumb pressure over the main artery in severe cases.
- **Tourniquet:** the use of a tourniquet can be VERY DANGEROUS, and should only be used for a severe, life threatening bleed in a limb or tail that is not expected to be saved.
- **Internal Bleeding:** requires immediate veterinary attention! External signs of bleeding within the body include - pale gums or eyelids, cool ears, legs or tail, and lethargy.

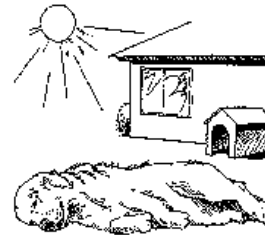
### BANDAGING



- Thoroughly clean the wound before bandaging!
- **First Layer /Contact Layer:** sterile, inert, non-stick (ex. Telfa pad).
- **Second Layer /Absorbent Layer:** holds contact layer in place snugly but NOT tightly, usually a cotton or dacron material. Use a material of proper width to avoid a tourniquet effect or wrinkles which can cause discomfort and even tissue death. ALWAYS wrap from the toes or tail tip towards the body!!!
- **Third Layer/Outer Layer:** apply smoothly and snugly but NOT tight enough to cutoff blood circulation. Use a porous adhesive tape or elastic tape.
- Bandages should be checked frequently for any signs of swelling, discolouration, saturation, and odour. It is best to have bandages placed by a veterinarian or a veterinary technician as soon as possible.

## **BEE STINGS**

- If a stinger can be found pull it out.
- Apply a cool compress to the area (to neutralize some of the acidic venom, one can apply a paste mixture of baking soda and water).
- Contact your veterinarian before administering medications; however, if that is not possible an antihistamine – DIPHENHYDRAMINE HCl can be administered 1-4 mg/kg (Benadryl - no extra additives).



## **HYPERTHERMIA**

- Hyperthermia is simply an elevation of body temperature.
- Remove from the environment where the hyperthermia occurred.
- Move pet into the shade and cool with a fan.
- Determine rectal temperature if possible and record it!
- Begin cooling the body by wetting the animal with **cool** water, ice packs **wrapped in towels** can be placed in the groin. Be careful not to cool the animal too quickly!!!

## **POISONING**

- Get in touch with a veterinarian or poison control **IMMEDIATELY!**
- If ingestion occurred within the last 3 hours, induce vomiting **unless** a petroleum product, cleaning solution or a strong acid or alkali has been ingested.
- Syrup of ipecac or hydrogen peroxide (5-10 ml by mouth) can be administered to induce vomiting
- Get to your veterinarian immediately.