



To Add to Your Knowledge of and Pleasure in Your Pets' Good Health
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Halloween Tips

Halloween can be a frightening time for our furry friends. We encourage pet owners to protect their four-legged family members this October by being mindful of their F.E.A.R. – food, environment, attire, and recovery.

Food: Candy, especially chocolate, is toxic to animals and can cause vomiting, restlessness, heart disturbances, and even death. Although grapes and raisins are a healthy alternative snack for humans, they can be potentially deadly for dogs. These fruits contain an unknown toxin that can damage dogs' kidneys and cause kidney failure. Animals may eat candy wrappers, causing obstruction or irritation to the pet's digestive system.

Environment: Outdoor pets should be kept indoors during the days surrounding Halloween. Unsupervised outdoor animals are susceptible to stress, inhumane practical jokes (which black cats are especially at risk for), or theft. Animals should be kept away from the door and out of hearing range of a constantly ringing doorbell and excited children. Fluffy or Fido should be put in a room where they will not be disturbed by noise and activity.

Crepe paper streamers, fake cobwebs, glow sticks, plastic spiders and cardboard wall hangings can easily be chewed and swallowed, damaging your pet's digestive tract. Animals can also tip over the candle in a jack-o-lantern and burn themselves or start a fire. Keep decorations out of animals' reach, and maintain supervision if they play nearby.

Attire: Transforming your pet into a superhero, witch, ghost, or goblin can be a stressful and unpleasant experience. Some animals love to dress up, but others dread it. If your furry friend doesn't mind dressing up, make sure that you select a costume that doesn't restrict his normal movements, breathing or vision. Costumes that interfere with these things can cause ligament or joint injuries, and animals are more likely to bite if their vision is impaired.

Recovery: It is important to have a plan if your pet becomes sick, injured or lost this Halloween season. Pet parents should always have contact information for their veterinarian and local animal shelters easily accessible. It is also important to update your pet's identification tags and microchip information each time you move or change phone numbers so that current contact information is always available on your pet.

This article was reprinted with permission from the American Animal Hospital Association and www.HealthyPet.com

Success Stories

One of our alert, attentive clients presented Audry, a sweet middle aged Boxer, to Acadia for "slowing down". She had no specific symptoms other than moving slowly and being more tired than usual. To her owner, it seemed like "old age" had set in though she is only 7 years old. After a thorough physical exam, it was determined that she had slight pain in her back and abdomen. She was immediately hospitalized for testing and in-house blood analyses revealed a slight anemia. Dr. Jones also noticed that her abdomen was slightly enlarged and so a needle aspiration was performed. It was quickly discovered that she was

bleeding internally. Audry had an intravenous catheter placed in order to give supportive fluid therapy.

She later had an ultrasound study of her abdomen which revealed a bleeding splenic mass. Emergency abdominal surgery was performed to remove the bleeding spleen and she has made a complete recovery since then! The mass on the spleen was found to be a BENIGN (harmless!) growth

and we are confident that Audry has many more good years ahead.



André is going to be 18 years old this coming January! This feline tabby lives at Acadia and you probably have seen him lounging around the reception area. In April 2008, he started leaking urine and would occasionally stumble on his hind limbs. In March, André had urine and blood tests performed and his results were normal. But the next round of tests, performed only one month later, showed that he was diabetic. Diabetes causes an elevation in blood sugar (glucose). This leads to sugar in the urine, excessive urination and urinary incontinence. The elevated blood sugar also affects a patient's blood circulation and nerve function, causing stumbling. Treatment was started by first transitioning André to the very low carbohydrate diabetic diet, canned Purina DM. Some feline patients respond well to diet alone but that response can be temporary and many need insulin in the long run. In André case, he did need insulin after giving the diet alone a month to work. In July, however, his pancreas rebounded, temporarily, and André was taken off insulin until September when his symptoms began to re-appear. Now André is doing very well on a low dose of insulin and eating canned Purina DM. The next time you stop by take a moment to wish André a happy upcoming birthday!



Lucy, a 9 1/2 year old poodle, presented to Dr. Griesshaber for generalized hair loss of several months duration. Based on her pattern of baldness, an endocrine problem was suspected. After baseline lab work was performed and hypothyroidism was ruled out, Dr. Griesshaber consulted with the local veterinary dermatologist. It was found that Lucy had an overgrowth of a mite called demodex (generalized demodecosis). Demodex is a normal inhabitant of a dog's skin but can grow out of control and cause hair loss when a patient has an underlying immuno-suppressive condition such as Cushing's Disease. After performing more specialized lab tests, it was found that Lucy indeed had Cushing's Disease although she did not have the "typical symptoms" of increased water intake and urination. Lucy's Cushing's Disease is now well controlled on medication and her full chocolate-colored curly poodle coat grew back.



The Acadia Team

STAFF NEWS

Acadia is pleased to introduce Jollene La Deau, who joined our technical team in June of 2008. Jollene is a New York native. She has 5 years of veterinary nursing experience. She left New York, and her position as head veterinary technician, to join our team at Acadia, live in

sunny California, and be closer to her friend, our receptionist and fellow ex-New Yorker, Joanna. Jollene is very skilled in patient care, in-house diagnostics, and anesthetic monitoring. Her goal is to become a Registered Veterinary Technician and she is planning on attending the Foothill program. Please join us in welcoming her! Don't forget to say hello to the rest of our team when you stop by: Technicians: Kim, Charles, & Mike. Receptionists: Holly and Joanna. Doctors: Donald Jones, Genie Griesshaber, Eric Griesshaber.



Kim, Charles, Jollene & Mike



Holly & Joanna

NEW! Advantage Multi®

Acadia is happy to announce a new convenient way to treat our dogs and cats for fleas, intestinal parasites and prevent heartworm. Advantage Multi® was introduced to veterinarians in April of 2007. In the past year and a half, reports have shown Advantage Multi® to be very safe and effective. It is applied monthly to the skin of dogs and cats the same way Advantage® is applied. For dogs, it effectively prevents against heartworm disease, kills adult fleas, and treats and controls hookworm, roundworm and whipworm intestinal infestations. In cats, it treats and prevents the same diseases as well as Otodectes ear mite infestations. Dogs need to be at least 7 weeks old and weigh at least 3 lbs before receiving the first treatment. Cats need to be at least 9 weeks of age and weigh at least 2 lbs.

For pets already receiving Advantage®, Advantage Multi® is the obvious choice. It is a convenient and cost effective way to prevent heartworm disease in dogs and cats. Yes, cats are at risk for heartworm disease too! However very few receive preventative treatment. Advantage Multi® prevents and treats against intestinal parasites that are zoonotic, meaning ourselves and our children are at risk for picking them up from our pets. The Companion Animal Parasite Council™ recommends regular deworming of our pet dogs and cats. Advantage Multi® offers a nice, easy solution. Advantage Multi® does not treat against ticks. However, for dogs needing tick prevention, we recommend using K9 Advantix® along with Heartgard®. The next time you stop by Acadia or join us at our upcoming open house, please ask us how to protect your pets against these potentially serious parasites. When you purchase a 6 pack, from the Advantage® family of products, you receive 2 doses free, through November 2008.

Please visit www.advantagemulti.com and www.petsandparasites.org for more information.

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Acadia



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Mon - Fri
8am - 6pm
Sat
9am - 2pm

www.AcadiaVet.com



Halloween Costume Contest!



October 17th - 31st

OPEN HOUSE

SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 9TH

JOIN US 1 TO 4 PM FOR FOOD, DEMONSTRATIONS,
Q&A AND A FREE NAIL TRIMMING CLINIC!

15% 15%

Acadia Veterinary Clinic
Dental Coupon
15% off
Total Invoice
(Which Includes Dental Treatment)

15% 15%

Expires 2/1/2009