



Spring 2009

Ohio Association of Veterinary Technicians Newsletter

Dedicated to promoting Veterinary Technicians and quality animal healthcare through: • Education • Legislation • High Ethical Standards

Xylitol Toxicity in Dogs

By: Linda Heidenreich, RVT

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Balance

When your day seems out of balance-
And so many things go wrong.
When people fight around you
And the day drags on so long.

When parents act like children
In-laws make you think "Divorce."
Go out into your pasture...
Wrap your arms around your horse.

His gentle breath enfolds you,
And he watches with those eyes.
He may not have a PhD
But he is oh so wise!

His head rests on your shoulder
You embrace him oh so tight.
He puts your world in balance.
And makes it seem all right.

Your tears they soon stop flowing
The tension is now eased.
The garbage has been lifted
And you're quiet and at peace.

So when you need the balance
From circumstances in your day
The best therapy that you can seek
Is out there chomping hay!

~Anonymous

Xylitol is a sugar alcohol that is used in human products as a sugar substitute. It is an artificial sweetener created from plants such as corn, raspberries and birch. Xylitol can be found in sugar-free gum, candy and foods. It can also be found in a granulated form which is used for baking. People with diabetes and those on low-carbohydrate diets use it. Xylitol can also be found in toothpastes and mouth washes due to its anti-cavity properties and its effectiveness of inhibiting bacterial growth.

Dogs that ingest Xylitol at levels as low as 0.1g/kg are at risk of hypoglycemia. At doses of 0.5g/kg or higher, the danger of liver failure and coagulopathies develops. When Xylitol is ingested by a dog it is quickly absorbed into the blood stream, which causes insulin to be released. Profound hypoglycemia can result from the released insulin. Symptoms of Xylitol toxicity can occur as soon as 30 minutes post ingestion or be delayed for up to 12 hours. Most clinical signs include the following:

Vomiting, hypoglycemia symptoms (lethargy, weakness), ataxia, seizures and coma. Dogs who develop liver failure may not show hypoglycemia symptoms after ingestion. Dogs that ingest products containing Xylitol need to be seen by a veterinary immediately for treatment.

The treating veterinarian may induce vomiting if the ingestion was recent (within the last 30 minutes) and the pet is not showing signs. Activated charcoal is not effective in treatment, and it carries the risk for aspiration pneumonia. The dog should be admitted to the veterinary hospital for monitoring and treatment of any symptoms. The veterinarian may order the following blood work: Blood glucose, CBC/Profile, and clotting panels. If hypoglycemia occurs, IV fluids containing Dextrose will be needed. If liver/clotting issues occur, plasma or blood transfusion may be needed. Additional medication may be given at the discretion of the treating veterinarian such as:

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OAVTPresident@ohiorvt.org

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OAVTVicepresident@ohiorvt.org

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OAVT UPDATES

Up-Coming OAVT Board Meetings

The OAVT holds board meetings every other month in Worthington, Ohio at MedVet. We welcome all members that want to get involved in improving our profession. We appreciate new and creative ideas and we want to hear your opinions. Please join us at the following meetings: May 17, July 19, September 13, October 10-11** and November 15. Meetings start at 10:30 am with committee meetings held from 10:00-10:30 am. If you would like to join us, please visit our web site for directions.

****Annual Discovery Business Meeting****

The OAVT is currently putting the final touches on the Constitution which will be voted on at the Annual Discovery Business Meeting in October. Watch for updates in the next newsletter and on the OAVT website at www.ohiorvt.org.

Elections are around the corner. If you think you would like to hold an elected board position please join us at our bi-monthly board meetings.

District 7 will hold a CE meeting in July on behavior specialties and puppy classes in the hospital. If you are interested you need to contact Nichole at Nkellandrvt@zoominternet.net. The District will be **emailing** information to members to cut down on mailing costs. If you do not have email please call 330-241-4677 for more information.

From the Editor:

I want to apologize for the mix up with the last newsletter that went out in February. We had it planned to reach the members just before the Midwest Veterinary Conference, but unfortunately most of you probably received it the week after the conference. There was a mistake with the postage, so most of the newsletters were returned to the printer, however there were several members that received theirs and a few that had to pay for the extra postage. We do apologize for the mistake and have taken steps to correct the problem for the future.

Nichole Kelland, RVT

Publication of articles and advertising does not imply endorsement of products, services or statements made concerning them. All articles and advertising are subject to approval of the editor. The editor reserves the right to reject articles and advertising. Before articles are re-printed, written approval by the OAVT Newsletter Committee is necessary. Newsletter inquiries to OAVT, 7745 Hathaway Park Ct, Dublin, Ohio 43016, or OAVTNewsletter@OhioRVT.org

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N-acetylcysteine, Vitamin E, and Denosyl to name a few.

Dogs who have uncomplicated hypoglycemia and receive prompt treatment have a good prognosis for recovery. While those who develop coagulopathies, liver failure or liver necrosis have a poor to grave prognosis.

Virbac introduced Aquadent®, a daily mouthwash for dogs, which contains Xylitol. In a 500 ml bottle there is 2.5 grams of Xylitol. It is important to advise owners of the narrow safety margin for this product. They must follow the directions very carefully and not allow multiple to pets drink from the same dish. If separate dishes are not possible then they should be advised to follow the directions for the smallest dog. There is no information regarding Xylitol toxicity in felines, so owners need to be aware that it may cause problems with their cats. As the number of products which carry Xylitol continue to increase so do the number of animal related toxicities. Xylitol toxicity is preventable, and educating owners of the danger is the key to prevention.

Partial list of products containing Xylitol:

Tic Tac Chill Mints	ZOX Breath Lozenges
Orbit Sugar Free Gum	Xylifresh Mouth Rinse
Trident Sugar Free Gum	Tom of Maines Toothpaste
Ice Breakers Ice Cubes Gum	Euphoria
Arm and Hammer Dental Care Sugar Free Gum	Miracle Sweet
Epic	Smart Sweet
Spry	Sweet Life
Unique Sweet Gum	Perfect Sweet
Xyliwhite	

Pet and Tech Tips

When giving feline intranasal vaccines go from the side where the slit is, it helps because they don't see the syringe in their face and you don't have to actually squirt it in the nose.

Thomas M.

We use old IV lines to tie ET tubes in for surgeries and dentals, instead of gauze. This comes in very handy especially with the dentals. We would have problems with the gauze getting wet and loosening up and the ET tube losing it's position.

Vicki R.

If you have a tip that you would like to share please submit it to:

OAVTNews@gmail.com

Best tip of the year will get a one year complimentary membership to the OAVT

The OAVT Newsletter is looking for articles from our members. Articles can be on diseases, dealing with clients or animal related topics. All articles should be a minimum of 1 page in length. Once published in the newsletter you will receive \$20.00. Articles can be sent to OAVTNewsletter@ohiorvt.org

The newsletter editor and committee has the right to accept or reject any article. If changes need to be made we will work with you until a final draft is agreed upon.

What's Happening at the Technician Schools

The OAVT would like to congratulate all the students who are graduating this May/June. We look forward to helping all the new technicians.

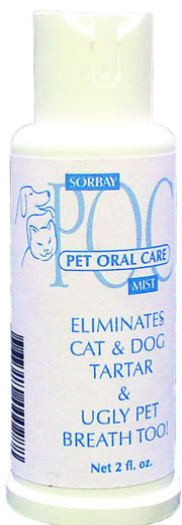
If something is happening at your school let us know at oavtnews@gmail.com

Tri-C had some great news regarding their students who took the VTNE this past January. They had 15 first-time takers and 2 second-time takers sit for the test. All 17 students passed. In the 7 domain areas tested the Tri-C students scored higher then the national average and were higher then the Canadian average in 6 of the 7 domains.

Product Reviews

POC Oral Care Mist by Bon Mange, Inc.

POC (Pet Oral Care) is a daily mist for dogs and cats that is supposed to eliminate tartar build up and get rid of the bad breath. Does it really work? Several of our members have used this product on their pets and here is what they have said. While the directions are very simple and easy to follow most found themselves using the mist 3-5 times per week. With one member only using it once a week and one using it twice daily. Dogs seemed to handle the spray better than kitties, so one individual sprayed the mist on their finger and wiped it onto their cats teeth. Another member just associated the spray with a treat. Only one animal really seemed to have a problem with the product in which they wouldn't let the owner near the mouth. Most noted a small noticeable change in the amount of tartar on the teeth. They also noticed that the bad breath was mostly eliminated. All the respondents agreed that they would use this product in the future.



For more information
regarding POC Oral Care
Mist visit
www.bonmange.com or
call 800-553-1224

Parvo Scrub by JaniSource

Parvo Scrub is a wide spectrum quaternary detergent blend disinfectant. It is safe to use on all surfaces in the veterinary hospital. It can be mixed at different concentrations depending on what you need. The lowest recommended concentration is ideal for general cleaning, however mixing it stronger at 8oz per 1 gallon of water has shown to be effective against Canine Parvo Virus (must be in contact for 10 minutes). No more guessing about the bleach ratio and no more bad fumes from bleach and urine mixing.

Here is what our members had to say about Parvo Scrub.

Most everyone agreed that the product was easy to use, as it was already diluted into the 8oz per gallon spray. The directions were easy to follow. Most people wore gloves when using, but those that did not mentioned that the product was a bit irritating to dry hands. The product was used on the following surfaces without leaving any residue: stainless steel tables and cages, Formica counters, in the exam rooms and on plexiglass.

Most clinics liked it enough to want to use it again if the price was right. According to www.parvoscrub.com the cost for one gallon is \$19.85, which would make up to 16 gallons of the parvo strength concentration.



If you would like to review products in the future please contact Nichole Kelland at Nkellandrvt@zoominternet.net

Publication of product reviews does not imply endorsement of products, services or statements made concerning them.

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITIES

RVT's

Considering New Challenges in Surgery or Internal Medicine?

Akron Veterinary Referral & Emergency Center (AVREC) is a 24-hour specialty hospital located in the western suburbs of Akron, approximately 20 miles south of Cleveland. Hospital services include surgery, internal medicine, radiology, ophthalmology and emergency. We are in search of a FT RVT for surgery and a FT RVT to fill a position in internal medicine. Surgery or internal medicine experience is not necessarily a requirement, but a positive attitude, good client communications skills, a desire to succeed and a passion for veterinary medicine are. To attract and retain superior technicians, compensation and benefits are highly competitive and currently include: annual reviews, 100% employer paid health and dental insurance, 4-day work week, generous paid time off, free boarding days, discounted pet care, uniform allowance, annual CE allowance and a pension plan. If you are seeking new challenges, looking for an organization that truly embraces the Ohio Practice Act and is one for which you would be proud to be associated, we encourage you to submit your resume to:



Akron Veterinary Referral & Emergency Center

1321 Centerview Circle
Akron, Ohio 44321

Ph. 330-665-4996 • Fax 330-665-5972

Attn: Emergency Tech Search

E-mail: smcwilliams@akronvet.com

<http://www.akronvet.com>

The employment posting policy of the OAVT is as follows:

- Standard Ad includes a 2 1/2" x 4" ad space in the next issue of the OAVT Newsletter and a 60 day ad posting on the OAVT website for a fee of \$50.00
- Graphic Ad includes a 4 1/2" x 5" ad with color graphics and/or photo of facility in the next issue of the OAVT Newsletter and a 60 day ad posting on the OAVT website for a fee of \$75.00.

To place an ad please fill out the OAVT Classified Ad form located on our website: www.OhioRVT.org

All payments should be directed to our Newsletter Chairperson:

Nichole Kelland, RVT 161
Ridgeview Drive Medina,
Ohio 44256

Please make checks payable to OAVT, or call 330-241-4677 for credit card payments

Registered Veterinary Technician

Full time position in three doctor companion animal practice. We currently have one registered tech and need another as soon as possible. New tech will do all she was trained to do: client contact, patient restraint, inducing anesthesia and monitoring during surgery, collection of samples and running lab work (in-house Heska CBC/Chemistry Machines), taking X-rays, routine dental procedures and digital oral X-rays. Please send resumes to:

Town & Country Vet Clinic

2141 Rt. 35 West

Eaton, Ohio 45320

E-mail: tcvetclinic@yahoo.com

Part-Time Registered Veterinary Technician

Small animal practice with 1 doctor, 1 1/2 technicians and an awesome clientele. We believe in happy employees so your schedule is negotiable/flexible. New grads welcome to apply. Possibility for more hours in the future.

Apple Valley Animal Hospital, LLC

1221 Grange Hall Rd

Beavercreek, Ohio 45430

Ph. (937) 426-6950

Fax (937) 426-6952

Attn: Dr. Theodore J. Binzer

Email: avah1@june.com

RVT

Position for a qualified and enthusiastic Registered Veterinary Technician who wants to practice good medicine and be a respected member of a medical team. We have 4 full-time and one part-time veterinarians. We are a busy hospital. Our goal is to provide excellent medicine and compassionate care. As a team, we are constantly working to improve our skills, processes, and knowledge base. Would prefer if candidate is able to radiography, venipuncture, IV placement, dentals, surgical assisting, lab work and keep accurate documentation. We provide: health benefits, dental and eye, vacation, retirement, ability to practice in a safe comfortable environment, encourage professional growth and development. Facility new, clean and pleasant-great location

Miami Valley Animal Hospital, Inc

1550 E. David Rd

Kettering, Ohio 45429

(937) 434-8387 • (937) 434-8180

Attn: Rebecca Watts, MS LSW

Email: rwatts@mvahinc.com

Continuing Education 2009

OHIO ASSOCIATION OF VETERINARY TECHNICIANS DISCOVERY AND ANNUAL BUSINESS MEETING

OCTOBER 10-11, 2009

CINCINNATI VETERINARY TECHNICIANS ASSOCIATION

**DEMONSTRATIONS FROM SERVICE, POLICE AND RESCUE DOGS
MAY 19, 2009**

OAVT DISTRICT 7

**BEHAVIOR BASICS AND INTRODUCING PUPPY CLASSES TO YOUR HOSPITAL
JULY 26, 2009**

**ACUPUNCTURE FOR PETS
NOVEMBER 8, 2009**

For more information on District 7 CE and to register please contact Nichole at 330-241-4677 or
Nkellandrvt@zoominternet.net

**If we left out any continuing education opportunities please let us know at
oavtnews@gmail.com**

Discovery 2009

Tentative Schedule

Saturday Evening October 10th
5:00-9:00pm

Dr. Jay Zachman
Hill's Pet Nutrition

Sunday October 11th
Registration and Continental Breakfast
7:00-8:00am

Dr. Brad Garrison
Dairy Cows

Dr. Alice Jeromin
Dermatology

Dr. Tom Klein
Dental Topics

Kay Knox
Controlled Substance/DEA

Renee Jessen, RVT and
Theresa Stir
OVMLB Updates

Dr. Julie Bilchak
Heartworm

Speaker and topics subject to change without notice.

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