



THC Toxicity in Dogs & Cats

THC (tetrahydrocannabinol), the psychoactive ingredient in marijuana, can be dangerous to both dogs and cats. Edibles, vape products, oils, concentrates, and raw cannabis products can all cause toxicity in pets.

How Pets Are Exposed

Most exposures happen when pets eat edibles like brownies, gummies, cookies, or butter products. Pets may also ingest vape cartridges, oils, concentrates, or plant material.

Why Edibles Are Especially Dangerous

Edibles often contain additional toxic ingredients such as chocolate, xylitol, raisins, or high fat content that can create life-threatening complications.

Common Signs of THC Toxicity

Signs may include wobbling, stumbling, extreme sleepiness, dilated pupils, drooling, urinary incontinence, vomiting, agitation, tremors, or unusual vocalization.

Severe Signs

In serious cases, pets may develop seizures, severe sedation, dangerously slow heart rate, low body temperature, difficulty breathing, or collapse.

Cats vs Dogs

Dogs are exposed more commonly because they are more likely to eat edibles. Cats may show more dramatic neurologic signs even with smaller exposures.

What To Do Immediately

Stay calm and contact a veterinarian or pet poison hotline immediately. Try to identify what was eaten, how much, and when exposure occurred.

Do Not Be Afraid to Tell the Vet

Veterinary staff are focused on helping your pet, not judging you. Being honest about possible marijuana exposure can save valuable treatment time.

Do NOT Attempt Dangerous Home Remedies

Do not force vomiting unless instructed by a veterinarian. Some products may create additional risks if vomited.

Prevention

Store all cannabis products securely and completely out of reach of pets. Remember that pets can chew through bags, backpacks, and containers.

EMERGENCY WARNING SIGNS

Seizures
Collapse or unresponsiveness
Difficulty breathing
Very slow heart rate
Repeated vomiting
ACTION: Seek veterinary care immediately

Helpful Resources

ASPCA Animal Poison Control: (888) 426-4435

Pet Poison Helpline: (855) 764-7661

Always contact your veterinarian or emergency clinic if you suspect exposure.

Pay It Fur-Ward — Love Without Judgement