# DEET Toxicity in Dogs and Cats

*Drs. Foster & Smith Educational Staff*

Toxin
N, N-diethyl-m-toluamide

Source
Off, Deep Woods Off, and Cutters are examples of DEET products.

General Information
The process by which DEET works is not completely understood at this time. It is a commonly used product by human adults to repel mosquitoes and other insects. For humans, it is recommended to only spray it on clothing and not on the skin.

Toxic Dose
Varies with the product and type of exposure.

Signs
Skin irritation, vomiting, tremors, excitation, ataxia, and seizures.

Immediate Action
Seek veterinary attention. If dermal (skin) exposure occurred, wash area thoroughly until the odor is gone. Seek veterinary attention.

Veterinary Care
General treatment: Gastric lavage is performed and activated charcoal is given if the product was ingested. Bathing and rinsing repeatedly (until the odor is gone) is indicated in case of dermal exposure.

Supportive treatment: IV fluids are administered to maintain hydration and monitor for and treat seizures and hyperthermia.

Specific treatment: Unavailable.

Prognosis
Good.



Keep this and all other medications out of the reach of children and pets.

If you think your pet has been poisoned...

Contact your veterinarian or one of the Animal Poison Hotlines (listed below) if you think your pet may have accidentally received or been given an overdose of the medication.

**ASPCA National Animal Poison Control Center

1-888-4ANI-HELP (1-888-426-4435). $65.00 per case, billed to caller's credit card.

Follow-up calls can be made for no additional charge by dialing 888-299-2973.

There is no charge when the call involves a product covered by the Animal Product Safety Service.

**Pet Poison Helpline - 24-hour service available throughout North America for pet owners and veterinary professionals who require assistance with treating a potentially poisoned pet.

1-800-213-6680 ($35.00 per incident). Staffed 24-hours a day.

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