

DEET Toxicity in Dogs and Cats

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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.