Isopropyl Alcohol (Isopropanol) Poisoning in Dogs and Cats

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Toxin
Isopropanol (isopropyl alcohol)

Source
Isopropanol is found in skin lotions, after-shave lotions, perfumes, colognes, cleaning solvents, window cleaners, and sanitizers.

General Information
Isopropanol is a potent nervous system depressant. It is more toxic than ethanol. Toxicity can result from breathing of the vapors or from ingestion.

Toxic Dose
Symptoms can be seen after ingestion of less than 1.3 ml per pound of body weight.

Signs
Vomiting with or without blood, retching, abdominal pain, central nervous system (CNS) depression, decreased respiratory rate, and coma. The pet will appear drunk and the breath often has an alcohol odor.

Immediate Action
Vomiting may be contraindicated due to rapid onset of CNS depression. Seek veterinary attention.

Veterinary Care
General treatment:
Gastric lavage is performed and activated charcoal is administered.

Supportive treatment:
IV fluids and oxygen are administered while blood gases and urine output are monitored. Other abnormalities are treated.

Specific treatment:
Unavailable.

Prognosis
Guarded

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 Animal Poison Control Center - 24-hour service available throughout North America**
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 888-299-2475.

**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 ($59.00 per incident). Staffed 24 hours a day.

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