

Doobs and don'ts: 6 things you should know about pets and pot

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Marijuana toxicity in pets is on the rise

Whether it's for medical or recreational use, marijuana is becoming common in more households. Not surprisingly, Pet Poison Helpline® has seen a **450% increase in accidental marijuana ingestion.**

Of the nearly \$1 million in plant poisoning pet insurance claims submitted last year to Nationwide®, many were attributed to pot exposure. Here's what you need to know.



1. Oh yes they can-nabis

Pets can be affected by pot in many of the same ways as humans—but worse. Signs include:

- Dazed expression, glassy eyes, dilated pupils
- Incoordination, slow response
- Dribbling urine
- Salivation
- Vomiting
- Changes in heart rate
- Tremors, seizures
- Agitation, hyperactivity



2. Ingest, inhale, intoxicate

Common sources of exposure for pets:

- Dried or live cannabis
- Marijuana edibles
- Concentrated oil products ("dabs," "shatter")
- Secondhand smoke
- Marijuana alternatives (K2, Spice)



3. Infused with extra danger

Marijuana edibles pose an added layer of risk to pets: potential food toxicities. Common sources include chocolate, raisins, xylitol (a sugar substitute), nuts and savory edibles.



4. Get your pet to the vet right away

If your pet shows any signs of marijuana intoxication, get to the vet. Delaying treatment because you're worried about what your vet might say may be putting your pet at even greater risk.



5. Hash out the details

Be honest about everything you know (or suspect) about what your pet was exposed to so your vet can start an appropriate course of treatment.



6. Know who to contact

Keep a poison control number programmed into your phone.



855.289.0358

www.petpoisonhelpline.com

(A \$59 per-incident fee is billed by PPH)

vethelpline®

855-331-2833

(Available to all Nationwide pet insurance members)

Some exclusions may apply. Certain coverages may be subject to pre-existing exclusion. See policy documents for a complete list of exclusions. Plans may not be available in all states. Policy eligibility may vary.

Nationwide® pet insurance covers treatment costs for accidental poisoning and more.

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