



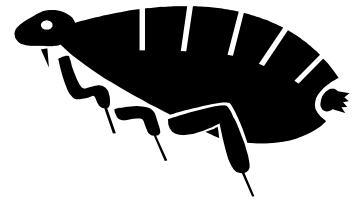
Bartonellosis *From fleas to cats to cat owners*

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Bartonellosis, or Cat Scratch Fever, is a disease which can infect both cats and their owners. The Bartonella bacteria is carried in fleas and infects cats who ingest or are bitten by fleas. The disease in cats can cause fever, inflammation in the mouth, lymph node enlargement and eye inflammation. Humans with cat scratch disease can develop fever, joint pain, lymph node enlargement and headaches. The disease is usually self-limiting but may take months to resolve. Humans contract

the disease when scratched or bitten by a cat with flea debris on the claws or in the mouth. Keeping cats free of fleas eliminates the chance of transmission.



Bartonellosis can infect both cats and their owners.

Dental Care Made Easy

Most dog and cat owners hear recommendations for routine dental care at their pets' annual visits. Many pet owners already know that pet dental care is important for maintaining pets' general health. 85% of dogs have periodontal disease by age four. Dental disease causes pain and unpleasant breath odor and is linked to heart, liver and kidney disease.



Most pet owners have also given up on brushing their dog or cat's teeth. Busy

schedules and less than enthusiastic pets make it difficult. A new product, Oravet, has eliminated much of the hassle of keeping pets' teeth healthy.

Oravet is a sealant which is applied to the tooth surface once weekly. It has been proven to reduce plaque and calculus if used regularly. It is initially applied to the tooth surface immediately after cleaning and polishing, then reapplied weekly at home to keep pets' teeth healthy. Ask us for more information.

Special points of interest:

- CKVC has a dog walking trail located directly behind the building. Please feel free to come by and take your pet for a walk any time!
- Veterinary technician Janessa Dickson and her husband Chris welcomed baby Landon Dickson on Sat., March 26th. He was 9 lbs. 14 oz.!

Bladder Cancer and Herbicides in Scotties



Could the herbicide you are using be harmful to your dog?

A recent study completed at Purdue University shows an increased incidence of bladder cancer in Scottish Terriers exposed to lawn and garden chemicals. Transitional cell carcinoma of the urinary bladder is the most common cancer of the urinary tract in dogs. Previous studies have shown that Scottish Terriers' risk of developing transitional cell carcinoma was approximately 18 times greater than the risk for mixed breed dogs. Shetland sheepdogs, Fox Terriers and West Highland White Terriers also appear to have a greater risk for bladder

cancer.

Scotties exposed to herbicides on their owners' lawns are approximately 4 to 7 times more likely to develop bladder cancer than Scotties without exposure to herbicides, according to the Purdue study. The Purdue researchers recommend that owners of Scottish Terriers limit their dogs' access to lawns or gardens that have been treated with pesticides, especially phenoxy herbicides such as 2,4-D.

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Fatal Disease from Ticks

Has your kitty that goes outdoors suddenly become depressed, with decreased appetite, and does she feel hot? There are many reasons why a cat with outdoor access can become ill with a fever, but the one we'd like to highlight now is *Cytauxzoon felis*.

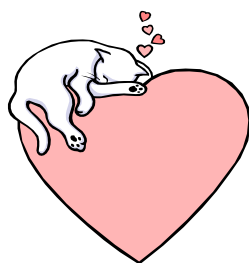
Cytauxzoon felis is a microscopic parasite that lives inside red and white blood cells and cells that line blood vessels. *C. felis* reproduces inside the cell, and then the cell explodes, releasing more of the parasite to attack more cells.

C. felis lives inside healthy bobcats, but in domestic cats, it is nearly always fatal. There may be some less deadly strains. *C. felis* is

usually transmitted by ticks but can be transmitted by bite wounds from other cats.

The best prevention centers on keeping cats indoors, and using a tick preventative such as Frontline Plus or Revolution on all cats, whether they are indoors or outdoors. If your cat were to develop symptoms such as depression, fever, decreased appetite, or difficulty breathing, please have it evaluated right away by a veterinarian so that proper diagnosis and treatment can be started. Diagnosis will require blood tests. In the case of *C. felis*, hospitalization on IV fluids and appropriate drugs may result in recovery.

Flea and tick preventatives such as Frontline Plus and Revolution will help protect your pets from fatal diseases.



Please call if you would like to make a donation to the Happy Tails Fund.

Hope for the Happy Tails Recipients

Previous newsletters have told you about the Happy Tails Fund at CKVC. The Happy Tails Fund was started by employees to provide veterinary care for injured or stray and abandoned animals.

With this fund we have been able to help many animals recover from their injuries and find happy, loving homes.

A Manx cat named Blue is our most recent patient to receive medical care and find a home.

Blue was attacked by three dogs and was hanging on to life when he arrived at CKVC. After major surgery to repair a tear in his abdominal wall, Blue is on his road to recovery at his new home.

After providing care for Happy Tails recipients the fund is depleted. The fund results from donations by clients and friends of CKVC. If you are interested in making a donation to the Happy Tails Fund please call 663-8387.

The Cruelty Connection

“Billy” was 8 months old when he was turned over to AnimalLovers, an animal rescue association in Upstate New York. His female owner was loathe to give up the Rottweiler mix but confided that she was afraid her abusive husband would injure or even kill him.

Billy’s story is not unusual. Abusers often direct their anger toward the household’s most vulnerable members: women, children, elderly, and animals. The connection between violence toward animals and violence toward humans has become better understood during the past 10 to 20 years. Whereas animal abuse by young children once may have provoked a “boys will be boys” response, experts now recognize that animal abuse can be a predictor for future violence, and often correlated with abuse toward other family members.

Often animal abuse is a form of domestic abuse—used to control or manipulate other family members. The abuser uses the threat or actual abuse of an animal to control, punish, or intimidate the victim.

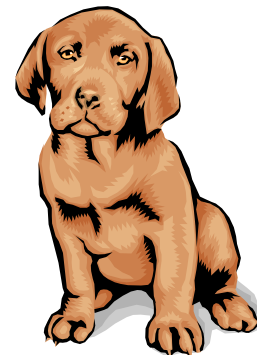
Recognition of the correlation between animal and human abuse has prompted animal welfare agencies to further research the implications for

both animals and humans. Awareness of the link has also spurred law enforcement and lawmakers to strengthen action against animal cruelty.

The research shows that preventing animal abuse isn’t just about animals. Women who delay leaving their home because of fear will keep themselves, their children, and their pets in a potentially fatal situation. Providing these women a safe haven for their pets as well as themselves and their children not only ensures safety of individual families but also strengthens the ties between animal and social welfare groups, leading to better research and preventive measures for the future. Animal abuse is just a part of the cycle of violence; programs such as humane education and safe havens help humans as much as they help animals.

April is Prevention of Animal Cruelty month. It is designated to help spread the word about animal cruelty and urge people to report any acts of violence towards animals. You can visit the campaign’s online component at www.aspc.org to learn more about humane laws and penalties in every state.

From: Dog Fancy Magazine 2005



Abusers often target the vulnerable.

Animal abuse is just a part of the cycle of violence.

Hazardous Plants

Pets appetite for household plants can not only be a nuisance to pet owners but can also be very dangerous to your pet’s health. The ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center has ranked the top five dangerous plants to help educate owners.

- LILIES rank number one. They are highly toxic to cats. Even with ingestions of very small amounts, severe kidney damage can result.
- AZALEAS, commonly used in landscaping, contain substances that can produce vomiting, drooling, diarrhea, weakness, and central nervous system depression. Severe cases could lead to death from cardiovascular collapse.
- Frequently used as a ornamental plant, OLEANDER contains toxic components

that can cause irritation of the gastrointestinal tract, hypothermia, and potentially severe cardiac problems.

- Also a popular Ornamental plant, SAGO PALM can potentially produce vomiting, diarrhea, depression, seizures, liver failure, and even death.
- Although all parts of the CASTOR BEAN plant are dangerous, the seeds contain the highest concentration of toxins. Ingestion can produce significant abdominal pain, vomiting, diarrhea, and weakness.

If you are worried that your pet may have ingested one of your household plants please visit with a technician or veterinarian.



Household plants can be a danger to your pet.

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friends, family or coworkers to our hospital*



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us and we will
continue to do
our best to
earn your
trust!**

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