



Tick Paralysis

Tick poisoning is a life-threatening condition caused by the saliva of the Australian *Ixodes holocyclus* tick. The tick's saliva is neurotoxic, causing a slow worsening weakness and paralysis of all muscles including the heart and gut over a few days.

Even after removing a tick your pet is likely to deteriorate further! The sooner your pet is treated with antiserum the better the chances of recovery. The sooner they receive treatment means a shortened recovery period, which also means less intervention and costs.

Treatment is very likely to be successful in the early stages but every year we see pets dying from ticks and the main factor is when their owners delay getting them treated! Once your pet is showing weakness in their back legs, heavy laboured breathing, retching (or vomiting) or a change in their vocalizing they need treatment urgently.

Remove the tick (however you can!) as soon as you find it, keep them as quiet as possible and **DO NOT FEED THEM ANY FOOD OR WATER**. Call us on **6585 1626** to make an appointment. Keep searching for more ticks as there is often more than one on your pet!

Avoiding Ticks

- Daily searches are very important, run your fingers through their coats.
- Keeping their tick prevention up to date.
- Clipping long haired coats in Spring and Summer.

Preventing Ticks

Remember, there is nothing on the market that is 100% effective.

- **Tablets: *Bravecto*** [every 3 months] or ***Nexgard* or *Simparica*** [monthly].
- **Sprays or Spot-ons: *Frontline* or *Advantix Spot-on*** applied every 2 weeks or ***Permethrin Spray*** applied weekly.
- **Collars: *Scalibor*, *Kiltix* and *Preventic Collars***: changed every 4-6 weeks. ***Seresto*** changed every 4 months.

Preventing Ticks with Cats

- **ONLY OPTION FOR CATS** are ***Frontline spray* or *spot-on*** every 2 weeks or a ***Seresto collar*** [off-label] changed every 4 months.
- **The other products are TOXIC FOR CATS** and may kill your cat. Accidental application will result in muscle tremors and/or seizures and in severe cases, death.
- In case of accidental application immediately wash your cat with dishwashing liquid detergent and contact **Wauchope Veterinary Clinic ph. 6585 1626**.

Please call us if you have any queries about tick prevention and the best product for your pet on 6585 1626.