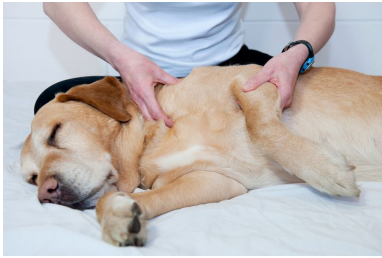


ASSIGNMENT 216 TASK 4 INJURED OR SICK ANIMAL

Name: _____



Keep calm and assess the situation

Sick or injured animals may be frightened and in pain and may bite or scratch – even the most gentle animal may become unpredictable. Being loud or stressed will also stress them out and could make their condition worse. Do not hug or cuddle the animal as this could also be dangerous to you or them.

Contact the vet

Keep your work's/collage's vet's name, address and number stored somewhere safe. It's best to call your usual veterinary practice first - not an emergency clinic you may have been to.

Ideally always phone ahead because:

- The practice may be closed if out of hours/bank holiday, but will have a recorded message telling you who to contact instead
- you will be given appropriate advice on what to do
- the vet will be able to prepare for your arrival.

You may not be able to speak to a vet in all circumstances but often a receptionist or nurse will be able to give appropriate advice and directions.

Better if you can go to the vet rather than them coming to you as more can be done in the surgery and the animal will be treated quicker.

Do not feed the animal unless instructed

This in case sedation or anaesthesia is required. In general it is never a good idea to feed an animal prior to a vet visit. The animal can be offered water.

DO NOT GIVE MEDICATIONS unless instructed by a vet to do so

This can be very dangerous and can complicate the picture for several reasons. What is given could be toxic (eg half a 500mg tablet could cause toxicity or death in a cat) or could react with drugs we might want to give. Many human drugs are not appropriate for usage in animals.

Previously prescribed veterinary medications should not be given without speaking to your vet as they may be inappropriate to in the animal's current condition.

Some animals will require restraint

This may be difficult even if it is a dog or cat which usually would be very trusting of you. If they are in pain they may react differently to normal.

Muzzle dogs with basket muzzle if possible, if not then tie a bandage around the nose and tie behind the back of the head (can still bite so be careful!). Be careful with muzzles if the animal is not breathing well and never muzzle an actively vomiting animal.

Small dogs or cats can be wrapped in a thick blanket or towel and scooped up - pop them into a basket/box if you have this to hand. Larger dogs can be placed on a board/large blanket/sled if non-ambulatory or there is concern regarding spinal trauma.



Drive carefully

If you are transporting the animal by car try to have a second person with you to look after the animal so you are not distracted while driving - don't risk further injury to the animal, yourself, or others! Always travel in at least pairs.

ASSIGNMENT 216 TASK 4
INJURED OR SICK ANIMAL

Name: _____

Questions

- 1) Explain why the chances of you getting bitten/scratched are increased when an animal is injured.

- 2) Why is it a good idea to phone a veterinary practice first?

- 3) Why mustn't you feed an ill/injured animal?

- 4) What measurement of tablets can cause toxicity or death in a cat?

- 5) State a suitable muzzle for a dog.

- 6) State two scenarios where you must not muzzle an animal.

- 7) How can you transport a large dog?

- 8) Why is it best to drive in pairs?