

Has Your Pet Been Exposed to Lead?

If your child has been exposed to lead, your pet may have been too!

SOURCES:

- Did you know high levels of lead have been found in some pet items such as toys, bowls, and beds?
- **Inhalation and/or ingestion** of paint chips and lead dust that may be on/in human skin, pet fur, soil, water cups and pet water bowls during home renovations can expose both humans and pets to lead.

SYMPTOMS:

- **Common** symptoms of lead poisoning seen in animals:
 - Upset stomach, vomiting
 - Diarrhea, blood in stool
 - Increase in sleep, decrease in activity
 - Loss of appetite
 - Behavioral changes such as aggression and sensitivity to noise



What YOU can do to REDUCE lead exposure

PREVENTION:

- **Check** to see if lead has been detected in your pet's toys at: www.healthystuff.org.
- If your house was **built before 1978**, use lead safe practices when renovating your home.
 - Keep your pet and children away from home renovation projects.
 - **Wash** your hands and your child's hands often.
 - **Do not** allow children and pets to chew on painted surfaces, and other lead sources*.
- Small household products containing lead should be disposed of at your neighborhood household hazardous waste collection sites. If the items are disposed of in your trash, they should be double-bagged in plastic.
- Painted, rhinestone, vinyl and soft plastic toys for kids have an increased risk of containing lead. They may be true for pet toys too!
- If your pet has been lead poisoned, check each household member for lead poisoning as well.
- If you think that your pet has been exposed to, or has become sick from lead, call your local veterinarian for assistance.



***For more information on Childhood Lead Poisoning Prevention Program call or visit:**

(800) LA-4-LEAD (1800-524-5323) <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/lead/>



For information on lead and pet items visit:

<http://www.healthystuff.org/departments/pets/product.least.php?rank=high>

For information on Veterinary Public Health call or visit:

(213) 989- 7060 <http://www.publichealth.lacounty.gov/vet/>

For specific questions concerning your pet's health, contact your local veterinarian.

