



R

# AMSCOPE

Newsletter of the AMERICAN MINIATURE SCHNAUZER CLUB  
Member of the American Kennel Club

May 2018

Volume CB33

Issue 5

## Just Dropping One of These on the Floor Could Poison Your Pet

Human medications deadly to pets

By Dr. Karen Shaw Becker

Every year, tens of thousands of pet parents call animal poison control centers or their veterinarians concerned that their dog or cat has swallowed a toxic substance.

Pet poisoning from accidental ingestion of human medications accounts for one-quarter of calls to the American Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Animals (ASPCA) Animal Poison Control Center (APCC). Many pet owners are not aware that even over-the-counter medications can poison their pet.

Believe it or not, just one pill dropped on the floor or left on a counter or table can spell serious trouble for your pet. And even though some medications are prescribed for both animals and humans, it's a really bad idea to give your pet a medication that was prescribed for you, as the dose or ingredients could be dangerous.

### Top 10 Human Medications That Can Poison Your Pet

The Pet Poison Helpline offers the following list of the 10 medications most often involved in pet poisonings.<sup>1</sup> If you have any of these in your home (and most of us have at least one), be sure they are

kept safely out of your pet's reach at all times.

### Nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs (NSAIDs)

Topping the list of human medications that can get into the mouths of pets are nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory drugs or NSAIDs. Brand names include Advil, Motrin and Aleve. Your pet is extremely sensitive to compounds in these medications and can become very ill from even a very small dose. Cats can suffer kidney and liver damage, and any pet that ingests NSAIDs can develop ulcers of the digestive tract.

Symptoms of poisoning include digestive upset, vomiting, bloody stool, increased thirst, increased frequency of urination, staggering and seizures.

Acetaminophen

Next on the list is another anti-inflammatory called acetaminophen, the most well-known of which is Tylenol. Other drugs, including certain types of Excedrin and several sinus and cold preparations, also contain acetaminophen.

Cats are at particular risk from acetaminophen, as just two extra-strength tablets can be fatal. If your dog ingests acetaminophen, permanent liver damage can be the result. And the higher the dose, the more likely that red blood cell damage will occur. Symptoms of acetaminophen poisoning are lethargy, trouble breathing, dark-colored urine, diarrhea and vomiting.

### Antidepressants

If your dog or cat ingests an antidepressant, symptoms can include listlessness, vomiting and in some cases, a condition known as serotonin syndrome. This condition can cause agitation, disorientation, and an elevated heart rate, along with elevated blood pressure and body temperature,

tremors and seizures.

The drugs Cymbalta and Effexor topped a recent list of antidepressant pet poisonings. For some reason, kitties are drawn to these medications, which can cause severe neurologic and cardiac side effects. Other common brand names of antidepressants are Prozac and Lexapro. ADD and ADHD drugs

Prescription attention deficit disorder (ADD) and attention deficit hyperactivity disorder (ADHD) drugs are amphetamines and are very dangerous for pets. Ingesting even minimal amounts of these medications can cause life-threatening tremors, seizures, elevated body temperature and heart problems. Common brand names include Concerta, Adderall and Ritalin.

### Benzodiazepines and sleep aids

Benzodiazepines and sleep aids with brand names like Xanax, Klonopin, Ambien and Lunesta, are designed to reduce anxiety and help people sleep better. However, in pets, they sometimes have the opposite effect.

About half the dogs who ingest sleep aids become agitated instead of sedated. In addition, these drugs may cause severe lethargy, incoordination and a slowed breathing rate. In cats, some forms of benzodiazepines can cause liver failure.

Birth control medications

Birth control pills (e.g., estrogen, estradiol, progesterone) often come in packages that dogs find very tempting. Fortunately, small amounts of these medications typically aren't problematic. However, large ingestions of estrogen and estradiol

Cont'd on p. 2...**POISON**

**The deadline  
for the June issue is  
May 10**

### TABLE OF CONTENTS

AKC Health Foundation	4
Bill Oxendale	4
Could Poison Your Pet	1
Emergency Disaster Plan	3
Fighting Cancer	4
New Applicants	2

# LOOK

Please let me know if you make a change

\* **DECALS & PINS.** You can get AMSC decals (\$1.00) and replacement pins (\$7.50) from

**Jacquelyn Ebersbach**  
3721 Eastview Avenue  
West Palm Beach, FL 33407  
saxonyms@comcast.net

\***LOCAL CLUBS...**please be sure to include all information when sending Specialty tear sheets for inclusion in AMSCOPE e.g. Judges, dates, entry, obedience.

\***LOCAL CLUBS...PLEASE** send a copy of your newsletter to the following members of the Local Club Bulletin Committee.

**Chair: Laurie Moore**  
48570 McKenzie Hwy  
Veda, OR 97488  
swdesign@ymail.com

**Kennalea Pratt**  
535 East Woodland  
Springfield, MO 65807-3607  
kennalea@mindspring.com

**Marilyn Oxandale**  
10117 Maebern Terrace  
St. Louis, MO 63126-1814  
oxandale@aol.com

Report all changes to the Roster to

**treasurer@AMSC.us**  
**Bonnie Keyes**  
511 River Terrace  
Endicott, NY 13760  
(607)742-3828

## POISON..from p. 1

can cause bone marrow suppression, especially in birds. In addition, intact female pets are at an increased risk of side effects from estrogen poisoning.

### Ace inhibitors

Angiotensin-converting enzyme (ACE) inhibitors such as Zestril and Altace are commonly used to treat high blood pressure in people and, occasionally, pets. Though overdoses can cause low blood pressure, dizziness and weakness, this category of medication is typically safe. Pets ingesting small amounts of this medication can potentially be monitored at home, unless they have kidney failure or heart disease.

### Beta-blockers

Even taken in very small quantities, beta-blockers used to treat high blood pressure can cause serious problems for pets. Overdoses can trigger life-threatening decreases in blood pressure and a very slow heart rate. Thyroid hormones

Pets — especially dogs — get underactive thyroids too. However, the dose of thyroid hormone (e.g., Armour, Nature-Throid and WP Thyroid, Synthroid) needed to treat dogs is much higher than the human dose. Therefore, if dogs accidentally get into thyroid hormones at home, it rarely results in problems. However, large acute overdoses in cats and dogs can cause muscle tremors, nervousness, panting, a rapid heart rate and aggression.

### Cholesterol lowering agents

These medications, often called "statins," include the brand names Lipitor, Zocor and Crestor. While pets don't typically get high cholesterol, they may still get into the pill bottle. Thankfully, most ingestions only cause mild vomiting or diarrhea. Serious side effects from these drugs come with long-term use, not one-time ingestions.

### How to Keep Your Pet Safe From Medication Poisoning

To prevent your dog or cat from getting into your medications, always keep them safely out of reach and never administer a medication to your pet without first consulting with your veterinarian.

Never leave loose pills in a plastic sandwich bag — the bags are too easy to chew into. Make sure all family members and guests do the same, keeping their medications out of reach.

If you keep your medication in a pillbox or weekly pill container, make sure to store the container in a cabinet, as your dog might think it's a plastic chew toy.

Never store your medications near your pet's medications. Pet poison hotlines receive hundreds of calls every year from concerned pet owners who have inadvertently given their own medication to their pet.

Hang up your purse or backpack. Curious pets will explore the contents of your bag and simply placing it up out of reach solves the problem.

Remember: Nearly 50 percent of all pet poisonings involve human drugs. Pets metabolize medications very differently from people. Even seemingly benign over-the-counter herbal medications, human vitamins and mineral supplements may cause serious poisoning in pets. If your pet has ingested a human over-the-counter or prescription medication, please call your veterinarian, your local emergency animal hospital or Pet Poison Helpline's 24-hour animal poison control center at 855-764-7661 immediately.

## NEW APPLICANTS

GREG E. COOK AND DOUG B. WEAVER  
2693 Northbrook Drive  
Atlanta, GA 30340  
865-250-5858

Dandghouse2014@icloud.com

Greg and Doug have owned Miniature Schnauzers for 15 ½ years... They currently own two (2) Miniature Schnauzers....

They are not breeders...They have enjoyed being involved in Conformation, Agility and Obedience Training with their new quality showgirl, Bonnie who they are training for the show ring and their boy Fritz who they are working with in pre-performance training...They are not members of any local dog clubs in their area...They have significant interest and experience in Technology, Financial Management, Detail-oriented Project Management and Organizational Skills...They are interested in bringing some of that knowledge to help the club in the areas of Electronic Media, Financial Activities, Agility, Obedience and Health...Their sponsors are DEBBIE HUFF and PATTI HENDERSON...





**William "Bill" Oxandale** passed away on March 15, 2018 at the age of 86

Bill was born in Topeka KS. After graduation he enlisted in the Army spending time in Japan and Korea. He returned to Topeka and married his wife, Marilyn, now of 62 years, having two sons and a daughter.

Bill earned a BS degree in Physics and a BS in Mathematics. After holding several positions with the government the family moved to Crestwood, Mo where they now reside. It was there that Bill earned a MBA. He retired in 1990 to enjoy his hobbies of computers and dogs.

Bill became interested in purebred dogs in 1973 when he acquired a Miniature Schnauzer puppy, Princess Piffier II "Pepper". After a short time in the Conformation ring, Pepper excelled in the Obedience ring. Bill was "hooked". Second time in the ring, Pepper earned High in Trial.

In 1978, Pepper achieved the AKC Obedience Trial Champion Title, the first Miniature Schnauzer to hold this award. He did some limited breeding, producing another obedience champion and two breed champions

Bill was an active member in the North St. Louis County Obedience Training Center and was instrumental in having the Club recognized by AKC. He served as president for three years and trial chairman for many years. He was a member of several Clubs holding offices and developing policies, this included Three Rivers KC and the Gateway Miniature Schnauzer Club where he served as President and Show Chairman. In 1992, Bill was granted judging status in Breed competition for the Miniature Schnauzers and Junior Showmanship.

In 1980 Bill became an AKC Licensed Obedience Judge. A highly respected judge, as of a write-up in 1997, he had officiated in more than 450 trials and shows- probably doubling that number over the next twenty years. Bill judged the first AMSC Obedience Trial at the Specialty in Louisville in March of 2006.

Among Bill's many accomplishments, he was also the author of two books, Everything About Obedience Judging and Obedience Judging {An Extensive Reference for both New and Veteran Judges}. According to Amazon this book still remains highly sought after twenty years.

Bill's contribution to the world of dog sports are many. He will be missed by all who knew him.

## AKC Canine Health Foundation

Please share the below (FB, Twitter, etc). Might want to mention HSUS and PETA are not recipients and do nothing for animal health welfare.

For the second year in a row, AKC Canine Health Foundation has been awarded the Platinum Seal of Transparency from GuideStar - their highest level of recognition. GuideStar Platinum encourages nonprofit organizations to share their progress and results in important new ways moving way beyond simplistic financial ratios to reflect the changes organizations are making in the world.

This emphasizes the fantastic work that Dr. Diane Brown and her staff are doing at AKC-CHF. Further, the efforts of the AKC-CHF Board members, volunteers, clubs, and donors help make all this possible.

Thanks to all who have been so supportive of the AKC Canine Health Foundation over the years.

## Montgomery Weekend

The AMSC has again contracted with Homewood Suites and they are now accepting hotel reservations for Montgomery week. For those that have not joined us in the past, the Homewood Suites Valley Forge is located at 681 Shannondell Blvd, Audubon, PA 19403 and is conveniently located near restaurants, shopping and major roadways.

The room rates and available configurations are:

\$139 for studio suite (1 King bed with pullout sofa)

\$159 for one bedroom suite (1 King or 2 Queen with pullout sofa rooms)

\$189 for two bedroom suite (1King and 2 Queen with pullout sofa)

Book your rooms by Sept 12, 2018 to guarantee the below rates. Additional 10% room tax applies. There is a \$75 pet fee per room. Studio and one bedroom suite rates increased \$5 per night; the two bedroom suite rate is the same as last year.

Guests may book one of two ways:

Call the hotel at 610-539-7300 and mention you are booking with the American Miniature Schnauzer Club, group code AMS

Go online to <http://bit.ly/2CXWjIX> and under the "Book a Suite" reservations on the home page, enter the group code AMS to receive our discounted rate.

Details for the member reception and meeting on Saturday evening, Oct 6th, will be released closer to Montgomery week.

Regards,  
Barbara Donahue, MCKC Hospitality

## What Dogs Are Teaching Us About Cancer

By R. Scott Rappold

WebMD Health News Reviewed by Arefa Cassoobhoy, MD, MPH

Oct. 29, 2015 -- When Marisa Rockwell took her dog Valo to the veterinarian for trouble peeing, she suspected some sort of urinary tract infection.

The diagnosis was much worse: bladder cancer, two different types. The pit bull mix was given 9 months to live -- a devastating prognosis for Rockwell, his owner for a decade. So when she heard about an experimental study on canine cancer at a nearby clinic, she signed up.

"I said, 'If there's no cure for either of these cancers already, we might as well try something that's not been tried before,'" says Rockwell, of Guilford, CT. Valo received two shots and follow-up testing, but that was it. He continued to live at home.

More importantly, Valo continued to live. Ten months after the diagnosis, Rockwell says he is showing no signs of illness.

This clinical trial is one of many going on around the country on cancer in dogs, aimed not just at curing man's best friend, but at finding answers in medical science's war on human cancer. Humans and dogs have similarities in how both develop cancer. They also share other physical traits and the same living space.

Canine research isn't confined to cancer, with studies around the U.S. focusing on everything from spinal cord injuries to aging to whether having a pet dog makes us healthier. But unlocking the mysteries of cancer, from testing new drugs to trying to understand why benign lumps turn into malignant tumors, may pose the greatest potential benefits for man and man's best friend, experts say.

The American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation has funded some 30 such trials in the past 15 years. Meanwhile, veterinarian researchers at 20 universities around the nation have formed the Comparative Oncology Trials Consortium to share information and cooperate in clinical trials on cancer in dogs, with the goal of better understanding and treating cancer in people.

"There are a handful of products that have been added to the market that were initially tested in pet dogs with cancer. There are many more in the pipeline," says Arlene Weintraub, author of the new book *Heal*, about comparative oncology between dogs and humans. "Over the last year or so there have been many developments in this area, in all sorts of cancer research."

For Valo's owner, it's about not only prolonging his life, but maybe playing a part in the

**Fighting Cancer** continued on p. 5

**Fighting Cancer...from p. 4**

greater battle against cancer.

"In a way, he is making his little mark on history," Rockwell says.

**Fighting Cancer**

All 20 dogs enrolled in the cancer study are still alive, says Gerald Post, DVM, oncologist at The Veterinary Cancer Center in Norwalk, CT.

While it's too soon to say what role the clinical trial played in their survival, researchers are optimistic. The study is based on a vaccine developed at the Yale School of Medicine. First tested in mice, the vaccine's purpose is to encourage the animals to make disease-fighting antibodies to attack a tumor.

Post says the study is a new take on monoclonal antibody drugs that have been used in humans. In these drugs, the medication itself provides antibodies to fight tumors.

"Instead of making the antibodies externally, we have hopefully figured out a way to make the body make them itself," Post says.

If the study shows most dogs have developed the antibodies, researchers will do a second that looks at dosing and a third focusing on the long-term effects on tumors.

"We're really excited about it, because it could truly revolutionize how cancer is treated in dogs and people," Post says.

It's one of many projects that are part of the One Health Initiative, a global movement to look at all aspects of human, animal, and environmental health in a comprehensive manner. Canine research has allowed researchers to identify genes linked to different types of lymphoma in dogs that are also linked with lymphoma in humans. Researchers at Mississippi State University see promise in studying blood platelets in dogs with cancer to better understand how cancer spreads and how to stop it.

Dog research has already led to some drugs and therapies showing promise in human health. Weintraub cites Sutent, which is prescribed to battle advanced kidney and other cancers, as one such drug. Researchers have also begun human trials on PAC-1, which causes cancer cells to self-destruct, after successful results from canine studies. Some of this research is funded by the American Kennel Club Canine Health Foundation. Diane Brown, DVM, PhD, chief scientific officer for the foundation, is quick to differentiate this work from animal testing.

"Sometimes people think, 'Oh, this is about owners who are dropping their dogs off for research purposes,' and that's not the case at all. These are dogs that belong to people that continue to be cared for and live in their homes," Brown says.

"You'll have these veterinary specialists who are running trials that have access to all the latest tests and MRIs and equipment, so the dogs are still treated for their medical condition. They just happen to be having samples taken or having drug therapy that is still experimental."

Such treatments could cost pet owners thousands of dollars, she says, while these clinical trials are offered at reduced cost or sometimes for free.

And the potential benefits go far beyond cancer research.

**Treating Spinal Injuries**

At first glance, a dog's spine seems to have little in common with a human's.

But Jonathan Levine, DVM, says spinal injuries in dogs can be very similar. An associate professor at the Texas A&M College of Veterinary Medicine & Biomedical Sciences, Levine has been working for years on a treatment in dogs that could be used in humans.

He is compiling the results from a study of 90 injured dogs that received the treatment shortly after injury. It's designed to block enzymes released after an injury that can cause more permanent damage and stunt the healing process.

The hope is that, combined with surgery, rehabilitation, and other treatments, the drug will show enough promise to eventually be used in human trials.

"I think the reality is it's hard to find treatments for human spinal cord injuries. There are so many examples of failed trials and the hope for those of us working with dogs that are injured is we can speed discovery, that we can help the dogs, and we can help people. And we really believe in the potential of these dogs to do that," Levine says.

**Do Dogs Make Us Healthier?**

At the University of Arizona, scientists are looking to the bacteria in our guts to try to prove the adage that having a dog makes us healthier. Could the relationship between man and man's best friend be more than a social one?

**What Dogs Are Teaching Us About Cancer**

"Dogs have evolved with humans over thousands of years, from the point in which we were trying to domesticate them," says research specialist Kimberly Kelly.

"We really wanted to see if there's something deeper that's going on and if that mechanism might actually be bacterial because of that evolution, the sort of 'old friends' idea," Kelly says.

Researchers paired shelter dogs with people who didn't own one and collected

fecal, saliva, and skin samples from both. They wanted to see if the dog's presence changed the bacteria in the gut and eased digestion. They are also studying whether the bacteria dogs have could affect humans' allergies and their immune systems. Kelly expects to have preliminary results by early in 2016.

"Anecdotally, people would tell me their digestion was better. Who knows, that could be stress. The dog is bringing the stress down," Kelly says. They plan a larger study if results bear out.

It's already been a win for the dogs. Of the 16 in the study, study participants permanently adopted 14.

Sandie Kirchner and her husband hadn't had a dog in 20 years. But when the retired couple heard about the study, they volunteered.

Kirchner, of Tucson, AZ, doesn't know what biological effects came from having April, the 3-year-old Chihuahua mix, in the home. But their new best friend has made life better.

"I don't know if it actually changed the probiotics in my body -- probably it did. I know my husband's blood pressure dropped, so his cardiologist changed his medication," she says. "Having a dog in the house just makes us smile, so that makes us happier. I walk her a couple times a day, so I've met all kinds of new neighbors, so I guess that's improved my mental health."

View Article Sources  
© 2015 WebMD, LLC. All rights reserved.





# AMSCOPE

Carla M. Borrelli, Editor  
1799 South Creek Road  
Derby, NY 14047-9729

## UPCOMING SPECIALTIES

Metropolitan Cleveland MSC      May 26, 2018  
NO SWEEPS  
Regular Classes: Mr. Johan Becerra-Hernandez

Paul Revere MSC                      July 8, 2018,  
Regular Classes: Geri Kelly;  
Sweeps: Dustin Wyatt.

## AMSC SPECIALTIES

Great Western                      June 24, 2018  
Regular Classes: John Constantine  
Sweeps: Kim Griffin

Montgomery County                  October 7, 2018  
Regular Classes: Joan Huber  
Sweeps: Susan Atherton

Schnauza Palooza                      April 6, 2019  
Regular Classes - David Kirkland  
Sweepstakes Classes - Patricia O'Brien

Great Western                      2019  
Regular Classes - Steve Hayden  
Sweepstakes Classes - Cheryl Coffman

Montgomery County                  2019  
Regular Classes - Brian Bogart  
Sweepstakes Classes - Carla Nickerson

## Fridge Rules



*(according to my Miniature Schnauzer)*  
If you drop it, the '3 second rule' applies.  
If I can reach it, then it was meant for me.  
If it's edible, I'm pretty sure I will like it.  
If it's Cheddar Cheese, I know I'll like it.  
If I've never had it before, I'd like to try it.  
If you don't want it, seems silly to waste it.  
If it's out of date, that adds to the flavour.  
If it's still wrapped, that's extra roughage.  
If I look lovingly at you, I deserve a treat.  
If you have Pork Sausages, I can do tricks.  
If I can open the fridge door, I'm clever.  
If you leave the fridge door open, *Thanks!*

**FOR YOUR CONVENIENCE:** The following information is given to help conduct AMSC business more efficiently. Please remember that the Secretary and the AMSCOPE editor should **BOTH** be notified of address changes, club officers and specialty results.

**PRESIDENT**  
**Carole Weinberger**  
5897 Buford St,  
Orlando, FL 32835  
Phone: 407-822-8103  
bandsman@earthlink.net

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
**Patti Henderson**  
3870 Yellowstone Way  
Liborn, GA 30047  
Phone: 678-344-1683,  
cell 404-401-1173  
aristosms@comcast.net

**SECRETARY**  
**Carma Ewer**  
8882 Easthills Drive  
Sandy, UT 84093-1813  
801-943-5077  
carmelms@comcast.net  
secretary@amsc.us

**MEMBERSHIP**  
**Jacquelin Ebersbach**  
**3721 Eastview Avenue**  
West Palm Beach, FL 33407  
Phone: 561-644-8420  
saxonyms@comcast.net

**TREASURER**  
**Bonnie Keyes**  
511 River Terrace  
Endicott, NY 13760  
(607)742-3828  
treasurer@amsc.us

**AMSCOpe**  
**Carla Borrelli**  
1799 South Creek Road  
Derby, NY 14047  
Phone: **716-572-7010**  
cborr@aol.com

**AMSC Web page:** <http://amsc.us>  
**AKC home page:** <http://www.akc.org/akc/>