



AMSCOPE

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Can You Give a Dog Ibuprofen?

When you or a family member have mild to moderate pain associated with a headache, arthritis, or a muscle strain, do you reach for ibuprofen? A lot of people do—it's (relatively) safe, inexpensive, and available almost everywhere.

But what should you do when their dog is in pain? It's natural to wonder if it's safe to give dogs ibuprofen.

Here's an explanation of ibuprofen and why you should never give it to your dog without talking with a veterinarian.

What Is Ibuprofen?

Ibuprofen is the generic name for a particular type of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatory (NSAID). It is an active ingredient in many different brand name medications, including Advil®, Midol®, and Motrin®.

There are many different types of NSAIDs. The NSAIDs designed for human use include aspirin, naproxen (Aleve®), and, of course, ibuprofen.

While acetaminophen (Tylenol®) is often thought of being in the same category as these other medications, it is not an NSAID and works in a different manner.

How Do NSAIDs Like Ibuprofen Work?

Ibuprofen and other NSAIDs work by blocking the activity of an enzyme called cyclooxygenase, which plays a vital role in the production of hormone-like molecules called prostaglandins. Prostaglandins serve many functions in the body, including the development of inflammation, fever, and pain.

While these symptoms are beneficial under

many circumstances, we typically use NSAIDs to provide relief when they are severe or chronic.

But prostaglandins don't just promote inflammation, fever, and pain. They also have other roles, including:

Maintaining adequate blood flow to the kidneys

Producing a layer of mucus that protects the inner lining of the digestive tract

Allowing blood to clot normally

When these functions are blocked by ibuprofen or another NSAID, problems can follow.

Problems With NSAIDs Like Ibuprofen in Dogs

Cyclooxygenase comes in two forms, COX-1 and COX-2, both of which are involved in the development of pain, inflammation, and fever. However, only COX-1 plays a beneficial role in blood clotting, maintenance of blood flow to the kidneys, and gastrointestinal (GI) tract protection.

Unfortunately, over-the-counter NSAIDs like ibuprofen, aspirin, and naproxen block the activity of both COX-1 and COX-2. Dogs appear to be more sensitive to the adverse effects of blocking COX-1.

This, combined with the fact that dogs metabolize and excrete NSAIDs differently than people, means that even relatively low doses of ibuprofen can lead to life-threatening side effects.

Alternatives to Ibuprofen for Dogs

Never (EVER!) give ibuprofen or any other over-the-counter NSAID to your dog without first talking to your veterinarian. Under rare circumstances, they might tell you to go ahead, but whether or not it can be given safely and what dose should be used will be based on your dog's history, health status, size, age, and other medications that you are giving them—just to start.

Because over-the-counter NSAIDs are associated with serious side effects in dogs, drug companies have put a lot of effort into finding medications that block pain, inflammation, and fever while leaving the other prostaglandin functions intact. NSAIDs that do this can reduce the chances of side ef-

fects while still providing relief from pain, inflammation, and fever.

Many NSAIDs have been designed specifically for dogs, including:

Deracoxib (Deramaxx)

Carprofen (Rimadyl)

Etodolac (EtoGesic)

Meloxicam (Metacam)

Firocoxib (Previcox).

These drugs are much, much safer and more effective for dogs than are over-the-counter pain relievers like ibuprofen.

Safety First

No drug is completely without risk, however. All types of NSAIDs, including those designed for dogs, have been associated with the potential to cause side effects like:

Vomiting

Diarrhea

Poor appetite

Lethargy

GI ulceration

Kidney dysfunction

Liver damage

Here are some ways you can protect your dog:

Follow your veterinarian's recommendations with regards to lab work and rechecks.

Give the lowest dose as infrequently as possible that still keeps your dog comfortable. Combining NSAIDs with other forms of treatment (weight loss, physical therapy, nutritional supplements, and acupuncture, for example) will often help.

Don't use two NSAIDs at the same time or an NSAID in combination with a corticosteroid like prednisone. Doing so greatly increases the risk of side effects.

To reduce the chances that drugs will interact badly, take 5-7 days off between NSAIDs when switching from one type to another.

Even though ibuprofen is cheap and effective for people, and you probably have some in your house right now, there are much better options available for relieving canine discomfort.

Talk to your veterinarian to determine which option would be right for your dog.

By: Dr. Jennifer Coates, DVM

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

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LOOK

Please let me know if you make a change

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Password is: **2020Schnauzer**

It IS case sensitive.

Here's the link to the Members Section:

<http://amsc.us/members-log-in>

Please write down or save the User Name and Password as there is quite a bit of pertinent information in our Members Section.

How Bonding With Your Pet Protects You From a Chaotic World

Analysis by Dr. Karen Shaw Becker

The bond we share with our animal companions is simultaneously simple and complex. Love and unconditional acceptance flow effortlessly between us, but there's also a great deal going on below the surface that's not as easy to observe or understand.

The Human-Animal Bond

The term human-animal bond came into use in the 1960s when Konrad Lorenz, MD, PhD, an Austrian zoologist and ethologist, developed his principle of attachment (imprinting), which describes how bonds are formed between newborn animals and their caregivers.

Around the same time, child psychiatrist Dr. Boris Levinson coined the term pet therapy after discovering that the presence of his dog, Jingles, helped him gain the trust of a withdrawn boy who previous therapists had been unable to reach.

"A pet is an island of sanity in what appears to be an insane world," according to Levinson. "Friendship retains its traditional values and securities in one's relationship with one's pet. Whether a dog, cat, bird, fish, turtle, or what have you, one can rely upon the fact that one's pet will always remain a faithful, intimate, non-competitive friend, regardless of the good or ill fortune life brings us."

In the mid-1970s, the Delta Society was founded to serve as a clearinghouse for studies into animal-assisted therapy and the human-animal bond. Then came Pet Partners, which provided the first comprehensive, standardized training program in animal-assisted activities and therapy for healthcare professionals and volunteers. In 2012, the Delta Society formally changed its name to Pet Partners Therapy Animal Program. From the program's website:

"The human-animal bond is a mutually beneficial and dynamic relationship between people and animals that positively influences the health and well-being of both. While many of us intuitively understand the benefits of positive interactions with animals in our lives, an emerging body of research is recognizing the impact the human-animal bond can have on individual and community health."

One Dozen Proven Benefits of the Human-Animal Bond

According to Pet Partners, the following are just a few evidence-based examples of the benefits of the human-animal bond to both pets and people:⁴ A therapy dog has a positive effect on patients' pain level and satisfaction with their hospital stay following total joint arthroplasty.

Fibromyalgia patients spending time with a therapy dog instead of in an outpatient waiting area at a pain management facility showed significant improvements in pain, mood and other measures of distress.

A walking program that matched sedentary adults with therapy animals resulted in an increase in walking over a 52-week graduated intervention with the participants stating their motivation for adherence was "the dogs need us to walk them."

The presence of an animal can significantly increase positive social behaviors among children with autism spectrum disorder.

Children made fewer errors in match-to-sample categorization task in the presence of a dog relative to a stuffed dog or human. Similar studies may indicate presence of a dog serves as both a source of motivation and a highly salient stimulus for children, allowing them to better restrict their attention to the demands of the task.

Therapy animals in pediatric cancer studies improved motivation to participate in treatment protocol, to maintain their motivation over time, and to want to "get better" or stay optimistic.

Pet ownership, perhaps by providing social support, lowers blood pressure response to mental stress.

Pet owners have higher one-year survival rates following heart attacks.

Recognizing and nurturing the connection between animals and humans has potential implications for individual stability and health, improved economic outputs and healthcare cost savings. This conclusion was based on a number of studies.

Pet ownership, particularly dog ownership, may be reasonable for reduction in cardiovascular disease risk.

Pet ownership was associated with a reduced risk for non-Hodgkin's lym-

CHAOS...from p. 2

phoma and diffuse large cell lymphoma. Human health savings of \$3.86 billion over 10 years have been linked to pet ownership as related to a decrease in doctor visits in studies in Austria and Germany. Whether it's a dog who gets his owner outdoors for regular exercise, a cat who alleviates loneliness for a shut-in, a highly intelligent parrot who needs plenty of attention from his human every day, or a therapy pet who relieves her human's anxiety, animal companions have a tremendous influence on both our happiness and our health.

Survey Shows a Majority of Pet Parents Recognize the Benefits of the Human-Animal Bond

In 2016, the Human Animal Bond Research Institute (HABRI) sponsored an online survey of 2,000 pet owners to learn more about how their knowledge of the health benefits of the human-animal bond impacts pet care and welfare. Some key findings from the survey:

Up to 88% of pet owners are aware that pets reduce stress, depression, and anxiety, increase our sense of wellbeing, and help with conditions like PTSD in military veterans

Up to 68% are aware that pets support health aging, help with conditions like autism and Alzheimer's disease, and improve heart health

Up to 47% of pet owners are aware that pets support child cognitive development and reading skills and classroom learning, and help prevent childhood allergies

Up to 75% reported mental health improvements from pet ownership in themselves or friends or family members

Up to 55% reported physical health improvements from pet ownership in themselves or friends or family members

98% of pet owners agree that their pet is an important part of their family

95% could not imagine giving up their pet for any reason

The 'Hug Hormone' Oxytocin Plays a Key Role in the Human-Animal Bond

Research on the human-animal bond indicates there is genuine chemistry between dogs and their humans. Daily interactions with your canine companion have a measurably positive effect on your biochemistry, thanks to the hormone oxytocin.

Oxytocin goes by a number of nicknames, including the "hug hormone," the "cuddle hormone," the "love chemical," and the "morale molecule." Oxytocin is what

makes skin-to-skin contact feel good; it's what makes a great meal so satisfying. This amazing hormone can also act as a natural painkiller and can lower stress levels and blood pressure.

It's a well-known fact that human-to-human contact, for example, bonding with children or partners, triggers the release of oxytocin. But studies also reveal that bonding with a completely different species also promotes release of the "love chemical."

A 2009 study of 55 dogs and their owners showed that the people whose dogs gazed at them for two minutes or longer showed higher levels of oxytocin than owners whose dogs gazed at them for less time. A 2011 study found that owners who kissed their dogs frequently had higher levels of oxytocin than other owners.

And in a study published in 2003, dog owners were put in a room and asked to sit on a rug on the floor with their dogs. For a half hour, the owners focused all their attention on their dogs, talking softly to them, and stroking, scratching and petting them. The owners' blood was drawn at the beginning and again at the end of the 30-minute session.

The researchers found that the dog owners' blood pressure decreased, and they showed elevated levels not only of oxytocin, but also several other hormones. These included beta-endorphins, which are associated with both pain relief and euphoria; prolactin, which promotes bonding between parent and child; phenylethylamine, which is increased in people involved in romantic relationships; and dopamine, which heightens feelings of pleasure.

Incredibly, all the same hormones were also elevated in the dogs, which suggests that the feelings of attachment are mutual. These studies and others are really just the tip of the iceberg. Understanding the mechanisms of the relationship between humans and animals, and their implications for all species, will keep researchers occupied well into the future.

In the meantime, if you're a pet parent and need a little boost — or if your animal seems to — try engaging her in a long, loving gaze, or as Jackson Galaxy says, the I love you blink. If she's the shy type, give her your undivided, loving attention for a half hour. You'll both feel healthier and happier for it!

NEW APPLICANTS**Melissa Lorincz**

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marshpup1997@aol.com

Melissa would like to join AMSC to learn more about and to help promote our breed. She owns three Miniature Schnauzers, one is ten and a half years old and retired, one is a nine-year-old rescue and the third one is a puppy from Riversong. She has exhibited in Agility and Rally for nine years and plans to show the puppy in Conformation, Agility and Rally. She belongs to JAG (Jersey Agility Group) as a member of the seminar committee. Melissa has read the Code of Ethics and the Breed Standard and agrees to comply with both. She teaches High School Science and enjoys knitting and running 5Ks and is interested in helping the club with Agility and Rally.

Sponsors are Barbara Donahue and Vicki Kubic

Brian Pollock**Maggie Pollock**

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Lewiston, NY 14092

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maggiepollock@roadrunner.com

Their interest in showing started with a Mini purchased from Carla Borrelli. They began showing him in conformation about 2 years ago. They have read the Breed Standard and the Code of Ethics and agree to comply with both. They are not breeders and have not raised a litter but have had dogs as pets over the past 30 years. They also have a Bouvier from a breeder. Brian became interested (hooked) on exhibiting their dog when Carla wasn't able to go in the ring so Brian took "Chuckles" in. He loved the experience as well as the dog. He is skilled in data management. Maggie and Brian are both retired.

Their Sponsors are: Vicki Kubic and Carla Borrelli

Researching a Cure for Canine Pyometra

By Sharon Albright, DVM, CCRT

Pyometra, an infection of the uterus, can be a life-threatening disease in dogs. While the disease is well-known, we do not yet understand exactly how it develops. The AKC Canine Health Foundation (CHF) is a non-profit organization dedicated to advancing the health of all dogs and their owners by funding humane scientific research. The AKC CHF remains committed to the prevention, treatment, and cure of canine disease, including pyometra. CHF recently awarded funding through Grant 02669-A to researchers at the University of Veterinary Medicine of Vienna to study possible mechanisms of pyometra development.

Stages of the Canine Estrus Cycle
Proestrus: The vulva swells and the female attracts males, but will usually not allow mounting.

Estrus: Called "heat", this is the mating period when ovulation occurs, and females attract and accept males.

Diestrus (Metestrus): Regression of the corpus luteum occurs, and the bitch is pregnant or in a resting phase.

Anestrus: A resting period.

Canine pyometra usually occurs during diestrus (also known as metestrus) in the 1-3 months following estrus. The bacteria *E. coli* is the most common infectious agent isolated from infected uteri. Lipid (fat) molecules are an easy target for infectious organisms like *E. coli* to use in their efforts to evade the host immune system.

Looking Ahead

Previous data showed an increased

amount of lipid droplets in the uterine lining (endometrium) during diestrus. This, coupled with the above facts, prompted researchers to explore the correlation between lipid accumulation in endometrial epithelial cells and pyometra caused by *E. coli*. The investigators will examine healthy diestrus uterine tissue and pyometra-affected tissue to identify the lipid composition and lipid-associated proteins present. They will also assess any changes in the lipid composition or lipid droplet formation in these tissues in the face of bacterial infection.

A better understanding of the role lipid metabolism plays in pyometra may lead to new treatment targets or improved treatment options for affected dogs. Reproductive research studies like this are only part of CHF's robust portfolio. Research topics include reproductive health, canine cancer, epilepsy, tick-borne disease, and more.

**Hatboro Dog Club Sept 30
 October 2, Morris and Essex.
 October 1, Devon Oct 3 and
 Montgomery CKC on Oct 4. Are
 still very much on!**

**M&E is aware of a rumor on the
 street that their show is cancelled.
 But that is not true as of
 yesterday.,**

**And remember that the weekend
 after MCKC is Mount Vernon
 MSC's specialty. Be sure to
 hang around the week after
 Montgomery for the shows at
 Catonsville Kennel Club in West
 Friendship, MD.**

PRA Testing Helsinki Study

Below is the response from Dr Eva Furrow re the new Lohi test (HIVEP3) – We have also spoken to Dr Lohi and Wisdom Health. The Health Committee has asked Dr Furrow to develop a single-test for us for PRA Type 1 which she has agreed to do. As we learn more we will be sharing information with you.

"The study is very well done and results are clear cut. The regulatory HIVEP3 variant has, so far, perfect correlation with PRA Type 1 (complete blindness before age 5). It has not been found in any dogs without PRA and explains all Type 1 cases.

The research done by Gus Aguirre's group had found the same chromosomal region and even discovered the HIVEP3 variant but had instead thought PPT1 was responsible because it was in more PRA dogs (though also present in some controls). They were missing the key to figuring things out - that there are two types of PRA in the breed. So while the PPT1 variant has some prediction for PRA risk because it's in the risk haplotype (i.e. is a marker), it's not the actual causal variant. So yes, you are interpreting this correctly too.

You can avoid producing any pups with PRA Type 1 by screening breeding dogs for the HIVEP3 variant and using the results in breeding decisions. Some dogs could still, of course, have the later-onset type 2, but at least you can eliminate risk for the more severe type.

I put developing a test for it on our agenda for when our lab reopens and will touch base with you again then."

Eva Furrow, VMD, PhD, Dip ACVIM
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Dr Furrow has asked for samples on a PRA-affected and a tested carrier for her development process. If anyone has any such cases, please contact me privately.

Patti

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The 2020 Slate from the Nominating Committee is as follows:

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Vicki Kubic, Vice President

Carol Hafner, Secretary

Bonnie Keyes, Treasurer

Barbara Donahue, AKC Delegate

Donna Hills, Board Member

Penny Hirstein, Board Member

Kaye Kirk, Board Member

Rene Wigen, Board Member

Respectfully submitted,

Marie Murphy

Nominating Committee Chair



Legislative Alerts – American Kennel Club

AKC Comments on U.S. Department of Transportation Proposal to Redefine “Service Animal”

Posted: 06 Apr 2020 01:35 PM PDT

Today, the American Kennel Club (AKC) submitted comments to the United States Department of Transportation (DOT) regarding its proposed regulation updates that would redefine “service animal” for the purpose of air travel.

The Air Carrier Access Act (ACAA) is a federal law that prohibits discrimination on the basis of disability in air travel and requires air carriers to accommodate the needs of passengers with disabilities. Under current ACAA rules, a “service animal” is any animal that is individually trained or able to provide assistance to a person with a disability, including emotional support animals. In addition to dogs, animals such as miniature horses, pigs, and monkeys have been considered “service animals” for the purposes of air travel.

The AKC has long shared concerns that passengers wishing to travel by air with their pets may be falsely claiming that their pets are service animals—especially emotional support animals—so they can take their pet into aircraft cabins or to avoid paying fees for their pets. Unfortunately, this has resulted in numerous reports of untrained or poorly-trained service animals being brought into airports and onboard aircraft, thereby putting the safety of the aircraft, crew, and other passengers at risk. These situations have undermined the use of all service dogs, especially onboard aircraft.

Moreover, the definition of “service animal” under the ACAA has differed from the definition of “service animal” used by the Department of Justice under the Americans with Disabilities Act (ADA). This has led to confusion as to what type of animal may be acceptable as a “service animal” in certain situations.

In January, DOT responded to the concerns of AKC and many other organizations by proposing changes to the rules it uses to enforce the ACAA. Chief

among them, DOT proposed that the definition of “service animal” be changed to, “a dog that is individually trained to do work or perform tasks for the benefits of a qualified individual with a disability, including a physical, sensory, psychiatric, intellectual, or other mental disability.” This proposal would align the ACAA and ADA definitions of service animals, and would include psychiatric service animals. Dogs not specifically task trained, including those considered emotional support animals under the existing definition, would not be considered a service animal. Those animals may continue to be accommodated by air carriers as pets.

In keeping with AKC’s policy on the Misuse of Service Dogs, the AKC expressed support for the proposed definition of “service animal”, and reiterated strong support for public accommodation that allows individuals with disabilities to use service dogs without regard to the dog’s size, phenotype, or breed. Likewise, it condemned actions that fraudulently misrepresent a dog as a service animal when it is not, or attempt to benefit from a dog’s service dog status when the individual using the dog is not a person with a disability.

Click here to read AKC’s comments to DOT.

Upon consideration of all comments it receives, DOT will provide notice of the final version of the rule adopted. This process may take months to complete. AKC Government Relations (AKC GR) will continue to provide updates on this rule proposal as developments warrant. For more information, contact AKC GR at doglaw@akc.org.

The post AKC Comments on U.S. Department of Transportation Proposal to Redefine “Service Animal” appeared first on American Kennel Club.

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AMSC SPECIALTIES

Montgomery County 2020
Regular classes - Mrs Bergit Kabel
Sweepstakes - Cheryl Coffman

Montgomery County October 3, 2021
Sweeps: Tatiana Myers
Regular: Bruce Schwartz

GOOD TO KNOW! Tick Removal:

A nurse discovered a safe, easy way to remove ticks where they automatically withdraw themselves when you follow her simple instructions. "I had a pediatrician tell me what she believes is the best way to remove a tick. "Apply a glob of liquid soap to a cotton ball. Cover the tick with the soap-soaked cotton ball and swab it for a few seconds (15-20); the tick will come out on its own and be stuck to the cotton ball when you lift it away. Please pass on.

STAY WELL!

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.

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