

## Preparing Dog Owners for Emergencies

**The California Veterinary Medical Association offers a few recommendations for what to keep in an emergency kit for your dog.**

The California Veterinary Medical Association is urging dog owners to be prepared for pet health emergencies.

Peter Weinstein, DVM, president of the CVMA, recommends pet owners have a dog first-aid kit on hand, especially helpful if a dog gets injured or becomes ill after regular veterinary business hours.

Basic supplies for the kit should include: Phone numbers of the dog's veterinarian and after-hours emergency clinics with driving directions.

Hydrogen peroxide, which can be used as a disinfectant or to induce vomiting.

Gauze rolls and sponges for bandaging and wound cleaning.

Adhesive tape for bandages.

Thermometer, non-breakable plastic, digital recommended.

Cotton swabs, tweezers, scissors, instant cold pack, and antibiotic ointment.

Eyedropper or syringe without the needle for giving oral treatments.

Clean linens and rubber tubing to apply pressure to wounds or use as a tourniquet.

The association also advises pet owners not to waste time searching for information on the Internet when a pet health emergency happens. Because early intervention can be crucial, pet owners should apply basic first aid if necessary and contact a veterinarian.