



Spring alert!

This Easter, with lots of human treats around, it is important to make sure you are aware of common items in your home that are poisonous for your pet, and where possible, avoid any exposure.



Dogs are very susceptible to **chocolate** toxicity. The stronger the chocolate, the more dangerous it can be and it may cause fatal neurological signs.

Dogs also enjoy a good snuffle through handbags and often find packets of gum and tablets. **Sugar free chewing gum** containing **xylitol** can cause life threateningly low blood sugar levels.



Xylitol is also used as a sweetener in home baking, and cakes made with it, could prove lethal to dogs.

Sultanas and raisins – found in hot cross buns, fruit cakes and the like, are also toxic for your dog. They can cause symptoms such as vomiting, diarrhoea and, in severe cases, kidney failure.

Cats are less vulnerable to poisonings but they can still occur.



Lilies are beautiful but very toxic to cats. Chewing the leaves or grooming pollen off their coats can lead to severe kidney failure.

Anti-freeze (ethylene glycol) is another, often fatal, toxin. It has a sweet taste, but even in small amounts, will cause kidney failure.

Permethrin spot-ons: Many canine spot-on flea products bought from supermarkets and pet shops contain permethrins. While these are safe for dogs, they should *never* be applied to cats, since they are **extremely** poisonous to cats.

Signs of poisoning can often be vague so contact us at once if you notice any signs of unusual behaviour or illness.

Team Moy

In November some of the Moy Vets Team 'glammed up' and went along to the Wyre Business Awards 2018 ceremony at Marine Hall in Fleetwood.

More than 280 businesses were nominees hoping to scoop a coveted prize for their hard work. The judges included Steve Newsham, Regional Director at The Regenda Group and Scott Carswell, Site Director at NPL Group Hillhouse Technology Enterprise Zone who were sponsors for the awards.

Garry Payne of Wyre Council has commented that this year there were an outstanding number of applications that showcased the amazing work that businesses in Wyre were undertaking. The Moy Vets Team, through their hard work and dedication were successful in not only making it through to the final but in bagging an award for themselves. Michelle took great pride in accepting the award of Rural Business of the Year 2018 on behalf of herself and her Team on both sides of the River Wyre.



K Laser

Have you ever thought about drug free, non invasive pain management???

Think no further, with aches and pains becoming more apparent in the darker and colder winter months you may like to consider K-Laser for your pet.

Laser therapy or 'photobiomodulation' is the use of specific wavelengths of light (red and near infra-red) to create therapeutic effects. Laser energy is absorbed, increasing local circulation and thereby drawing oxygen and nutrients to the damaged area. This creates an ideal healing environment that reduces inflammation, swelling, muscle spasms, stiffness and pain.

Positive effects on the body

- Improves and promotes healing
- Relieves pain and reduces spasm
- Increases joint flexibility
- Reduces symptoms of Osteoarthritis
- Improves peripheral microcirculation
- Beneficial for animals

Beneficial for animals

- Faster patient comfort
- Deep penetration
- Delivers more laser energy to the target tissues
- Shorter treatment times
- Shorter patient recovery time

Patient sedation or restraint is not required, the overall experience is comforting for your pet. The pets' fur does not need to be clipped.

Your pet will need to find a comfortable position whether it be standing, sitting or lying down. The laser will then be used for the required treatment time which can vary between 1 - 8 minutes per area of your pet. The K laser itself does beep, this is just to inform us what treatment phase the laser is on. You will be present with your pet and will be asked to put on some safety goggles while the laser is in use. Once the treatment is finished your pet will receive a tasty treat before leaving for home.

So, all you and your pet have to do is sit back and relax! If you wish to find out more please speak to a member of the Team.



Caring for your elderly cat

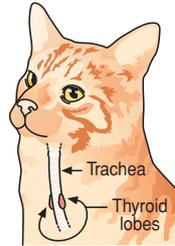
Elderly cats can seem to have the ideal life; snoozing in a cosy bed, eating when they fancy and occasionally demanding attention. They can appear so content, it is easy to assume that they are well in themselves, but their peaceful appearance can be deceiving!

In their twilight years, our feline friends are vulnerable to many illnesses, but are extremely good at hiding the signs. So, we have to be super vigilant to ensure they don't suffer in silence. Regular health-checks are a good way of helping to keep your cat in top shape and pick up medical conditions early, when they are easier to treat. Here is a list of things to keep an eye on:

Sore Joints: One of the most common problems for geriatric cats is painful arthritis. The vast majority will suffer with it to some degree but spotting the problem is a challenge. Cats are natural athletes, so they will still be agile to a certain degree, they will jump, climb and play, but with less freedom and frequency. You may notice they don't sleep in a previously preferred spot, if it is higher up, and they hesitate before jumping both up and down. Perhaps they are sleeping more, don't put a lack of activity down to age, it could be pain or illness. Is your cat a little more grumpy? Less keen to play or interact with the family? Not grooming themselves? Contact us to arrange a check-up.

Eating habits: Dental disease is very common in older cats and can be extremely painful. Older cats with dental disease may become fussy with their food, chew on one side, or refuse dry food. However, in many cases they will show no signs at all, making regular dental-checks vital. If your cat becomes fussy with food, contact us to make an appointment.

Weight loss: Notice your cat looking slimmer? In senior felines, weight loss is often a sign of underlying illness, but in many cases, the gradual nature of the drop makes it difficult to spot. We are very happy to weigh your cat, and this is a great way to monitor their health if you can't weigh them at home. You can also monitor their 'body condition score', so ask us how to do this to keep an eye on their level of fat and muscle. A common cause of weight loss in older cats is thyroid disease. An overactive thyroid will cause your cat to lose weight despite a ravenous appetite. The good news is that thyroid disease can be diagnosed from a simple blood test and there are a range of treatment options to manage this condition.



Drinking more: Drinking more than usual may be an early sign of some medical conditions such as kidney disease and diabetes, both of which are fairly common in older cats. Cats naturally drink very little, so if you see your cat constantly at the water bowl, please get in touch for a check-up. Equally, if the litter tray suddenly seems heavy or your cat is urinating in the house, let us know.

Dementia: We hear about this debilitating condition in humans and it can also affect cats. Affected cats may yowl in the night (this can also be a sign of other problems such as high blood pressure), seem confused, interact less with the family or start to urinate or defaecate in the house. If your cat starts keeping you up, please let us know. A few health tests and some treatment can often get you both back to having restful nights.

If you notice any of the above signs, please get in touch to book an appointment for a health-check. The good news is that modern diagnostic tests, combined with an expanding range of treatments, can greatly improve the quality of life of your elderly pet.

Why not join the Platinum Paws Plan to give your cat the extra benefit of a 6 month health check, free inclusive urine tests and discounted senior blood tests for the pet over 8 years of age?

The assurance of insurance: is your pet insured?

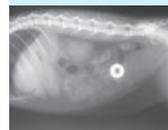


Knowing that your dog, cat or rabbit is insured can be a weight off your mind, especially if your pet has a sudden accident or illness and you are faced with an unexpected vet bill.

There are different types of cover to choose from. The top cover is a **lifetime policy** where your pet is covered for a condition for life, usually up to a certain amount of money per year. A **time-restricted policy** means that you can claim per condition, usually for 12 months only. If your pet has an on-going condition such as diabetes or arthritis, the cover expires after the time period. A **condition-restricted policy** means that you can claim up to a certain amount per condition. **Accident only insurance** is a basic cover only. Insurance won't cover a condition if it has occurred before the policy was started. This means it is useful to choose good cover for your pet as soon as possible.

We highly recommend insuring your pet since there are a huge number of surgical and medical conditions that can be very costly to treat.

Did you know that if your pet is under 1 year old and has a health check with a Vet we can offer 1 months' free insurance with Pet Plan (the country's leading pet health insurers ... an ideal way to give you time to look arrange for suitable insurance cover).



Pets commonly swallow items which require surgery to remove them,

however it's not every day that a kitten swallows a washer! Happily, surgery resolved the issue for this young cat.

In addition to the need for unexpected surgery, many *medical* conditions (such as skin infections, ear disease, kidney or heart disease – to name just a few!) can also be very costly to treat.

Cat in basket photo: Warren Photographic

We can tailor the flea, worm and tick control for your pet and budget monthly by joining our Health Care Plan

TO SIGN UP TO THE PLATINUM PAWS PLAN PLEASE SPEAK TO ANY MEMBER OF THE MOY VETS TEAM OR SEE MORE DETAILS ON OUR WEBPAGE

www.moyvets.co.uk/platinum-paws-plan/

Platinum Paws Plan

- Personalised FLEA, WORM & TICK programme
- FREE VACCINATIONS
- FREE nurse nail clips & many other discounts
- PLUS ROYAL CANIN life stage diets AT COST PRICE!