

**IF YOU ARE FACED WITH AN EMERGENCY SITUATION REGARDING YOUR PET AS OUTLINED BELOW, PLEASE CALL ROCKY RAPIDS VETERINARY SERVICE (780) 542 2144**

## **In General**

- Any problem that persists longer than 24 hours.
- Any problem that worsens over several hours.
- Any problems such as lethargy, loss of appetite, weakness and fever.
- Body temperature less than 38°C or greater than 40°C.
- Any indication that more than one body system is affected.

## **Gastrointestinal Problems**

- Frequent bouts of vomiting or diarrhea resulting in loss of large volumes of fluid.
- Inability to drink or keep water down.
- Blood or black material (digested blood) in the vomit or stool.
- More than three to four episodes of vomiting or diarrhea in a puppy or in a dog older than 8 years.
- Vomiting following suspected ingestion of foreign material (toys, garbage, rocks, etc).
- Suspected poisoning, or suspected bloat.

## **Bleeding**

- Bleeding from nose, mouth or anus.
- Bleeding accompanied by bruising of the skin, especially on the abdomen.
- Excessive bleeding that cannot be stopped by applying pressure
- Weakness, difficulty breathing, or reluctance to move after a bleeding episode.

## **Lameness**

- Obvious fracture of a limb.
- Non-weight-bearing lameness persisting for more than 12 hours.
- Swollen, painful joints or a gait that appears as if "walking on eggshells."
- Paralysis of one or more limbs.
- Lameness that initially improves but does not resolve in 24-48 hours.

## **Other Emergencies**

- Trauma
- Venomous snakebite

<b>Common Problems</b>	<b>What To Do</b>
Vomiting or diarrhea (once or twice)	Remove all food. Give pet only water or ice cubes for hydration. Call your veterinarian if persists.
Vomiting or diarrhea (more than once or twice)	Check for signs of dehydration such as sticky mucous membranes and dull eyes. Call your veterinarian.
Suspected bloating (large breeds)	Call your veterinarian immediately.
Bleeding from nose or paw pad (not excessive)	Apply pressure to stop bleeding, if it doesn't stop or if bleeding is excessive, call your veterinarian.
Lameness	Call your veterinarian if it doesn't resolve in 24 hours with strict rest.
Suspected broken bone	Call your veterinarian immediately.
Trauma: auto accident, dog bite, falls	Call your veterinarian immediately.
Choking	Immediate first aid to remove object.
Seizures	Call your veterinarian immediately.
Rubbing eyes, swollen eyes	Call your veterinarian immediately.