

THE PET POST

Pet news you can use from VPI® Pet Insurance



Garden Toxins

Many plants cause toxicity in animals, but the ones listed below are among the most common—and some can even be deadly. Ingesting just a few petals, leaves, seeds or parts of the bulb can be fatal to pets.

VPI Pet Insurance wants to help all pet owners avoid tragedy by spreading the word on common garden items that can harm pets. Keep this information in mind when purchasing plants for your home or yard, and warn your pet-loving friends about the hidden dangers of plants.

Accidents can happen at any time, to any pet. **Be prepared for the unexpected with VPI Pet Insurance.** VPI covers accidental poisonings, injuries, illnesses and more.

If you ever suspect that your pet has ingested something harmful, don't hesitate to seek veterinary advice. Pet Poison Helpline™ (800-213-6680) is available 24/7, 365 days a year.*



Autumn Crocus

- Severe vomiting
- Gastrointestinal bleeding
- Liver and kidney damage
- Shock



Azalea

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Drooling
- Coma and death



Cyclamen

- Severe vomiting
- Drooling
- Diarrhea
- Heart arrhythmias



Kalanchoe

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Heart arrhythmias
- Neurologic signs




Hyacinth/Tulip Bulbs

- Severe vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Drooling




Kalanchoe

- Vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Heart arrhythmias
- Neurologic signs



Sago Palm

- Vomiting
- Bloody stools
- Damage to the stomach lining
- Severe liver failure
- Death



Oleander

- Severe vomiting
- Abnormal heart rate
- Death
- Shock
- Weakness



Lily

- Highly toxic to cats
- Severe kidney failure



Daffodil Bulbs

- Severe vomiting
- Diarrhea
- Abdominal pain
- Abnormal heart rate
- Changes in respiration



Baits & Fertilizers
In addition to poisonous plants, keep pest baits, blood meal, bone meal, insecticides and fertilizers away from pets.

Enroll in an affordable VPI Pet Insurance plan and receive your discount!
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Be Informed, Be Prepared: The Real Cost of Caring for Your Pet

Spotlight: Chihuahua

Do you or someone you know own a Chihuahua? Chihuahuas are among the top 10 most popular breeds insured by VPI Pet Insurance.

We've compiled information on the most claimed common and severe medical conditions for this breed, including average costs to treat these conditions.†

	PUPPY	ADULT	SENIOR
Allergy-Related Skin Problems	\$160	\$160	\$200
Upset Stomach/Vomiting	\$300	\$310	\$350
Ear Infection	\$140	\$140	\$160
Kennel Cough	\$150		
Whole Body Allergic Reaction	\$130		
Tooth Extraction from Infection		\$390	\$410
Injured Muscles/Soft Tissue		\$200	
Heart Valve Problems			\$520

Average Veterinary Bill
\$3,187

Average Veterinary Bill
\$2,077

Average Veterinary Bill
\$1,891

Slipped Spinal Disc Surgery Brain/Spinal Cord Inflammation/Infection Removal of Foreign Body in Throat

Policyholder Testimonial

My Bouncing Bulldog Broke a Bone

Dear VPI,

I had never owned an English bulldog, and everyone I talked to after I got Daisy told me that I needed to get insurance for her. **My veterinarian had brochures for many different companies, but he said VPI was the best one**, so I took out a policy for Daisy.

During one veterinarian visit, Daisy was excited and wiggling all over the exam table. After the veterinarian completed her physical and put her on the ground, short and fat as she is and excited as she was, she attempted and failed miserably at jumping back up on the exam table. Thinking her fat little rump could make the jump, she went for it, fell backwards and landed on her knee—mind you, this all happened at the veterinarian's office! They rushed her to do an X-ray, and sure enough, she

had broken her leg. They put pins in her, and **I couldn't believe what had happened.**

Luckily, not long after submitting the claim, **I got my reimbursement check for \$1,800 of the total bill I submitted for \$1,900.** Since Daisy's accident, I've told many people that come into my auto shop that say they have dogs that they need insurance. I take out my wallet where I keep my VPI policy card for Daisy and give them VPI's number. **Thank you for the great service!**

Sincerely,
Bobby Harting
Houston, TX
VPI policyholder since 2009



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*A \$35 fee is billed by Pet Poison Helpline. PPH is not affiliated with VPI.

†Disease/Condition rankings are based on your pet's breed and age. Cost estimates are for a pet of comparable size and age, treated by a veterinarian in the state of California. The actual Cost of Care for your pet may vary. The most common Diseases or Conditions for your pet were determined through a review of VPI Pet Insurance national claim data. We obtained this information from claimed amounts associated with a Primary Diagnosis for pets of the same species, breed, and age group as your pet. We used data from claims that were: (1) submitted under VPI Pet Insurance policies with policy terms ending between July 1, 2005, and June 30, 2008, and (2) entered into our system before November 1, 2008. We counted all claims made under each Diagnosis Code during each policy term as a single event. We combined all events for each Diagnosis Code, breed, and age group, and sorted the data to determine the top ten Diseases or Conditions for each grouping. We only considered policies covering pets aged nine years or less at the beginning of the policy term. We did not include data involving rare canine and feline breeds.

Insurance plans are offered and administered by Veterinary Pet Insurance Company in California and DVM Insurance Agency in all other states. Underwritten by Veterinary Pet Insurance Company (CA), Brea, CA, an A.M. Best A rated company (2012); National Casualty Company (all other states), Madison, WI, an A.M. Best A+ rated company (2012). 12GRP1915

