

SHAWNEE ANIMAL CLINIC



NEWS

OCTOBER 2022

Providing the latest news on events and community service projects from your friends at Shawnee Animal Clinic.

www.sacpets.com

Newsletter



Breast Cancer Awareness

In honor of Breast Cancer Awareness Month, Shawnee Animal Clinic has partnered with SOMC to raise awareness for this horrible disease. Here at SAC, we believe supporting our community members is of the utmost importance. That is why our owners have decided to raise funds for the SOMC Compassion Fund for the ??? year in a row.

Co-owner and RVT Tim Wells stated, "I believe our community in Southern Ohio is our biggest asset. The area is full of individuals who truly care about one another. I like to take every opportunity I can to help this community of wonderful people grow and thrive. In such a tight-knit community, illnesses can take a huge toll on all of us. That is why my partner, Gail Counts, and I chose to make a generous donation to the SOMC Compassion Fund Every Year. We believe in this community and want to take every step necessary in helping bring healing and happiness to its members."

Our generous SAC family of clients and workers donated a total of \$505 to our Breast Cancer Awareness Drive this year. Tim and Gail matched that donation to equal a total of \$1,010 raised in 2022 for the SOMC Compassion Fund. It is our goal that these funds help lessen the burden of those fighting cancer.

SAC Goes Pink

SOMC'S ANNUAL PAINT IT PINK DRIVE

Every dollar donated to SOMC at Shawnee Animal Clinic matched by our owners.



Diabetes in Pets

EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO KNOW

According to the American Veterinary Medical Foundation

What is diabetes?

Diabetes mellitus, or diabetes, is a condition that occurs when the body can not use glucose (a type of sugar) normally. Glucose is the main source of energy for the body's cells. The levels of glucose in the blood are primarily controlled by a hormone called insulin, which is made by the pancreas. As food passes through the intestines during digestion, sugars are one of the nutrients absorbed from the food. The sugars are transported into the cells that line the intestines and are converted into simple sugars (including) glucose. The simple sugars are then absorbed into the bloodstream for circulation and delivery to the whole body's tissues and cells. Insulin is required for the transfer of glucose from the bloodstream to the cells. If there is not enough insulin or the body is unable to use the insulin, glucose accumulates in high levels in the blood – a condition called hyperglycemia. When the blood glucose reaches a certain level, the glucose overflows into the urine (this is called glucosuria) and draws large volumes of water with it. This is why diabetic pets often drink more water and urinate more frequently and in larger amounts.

In diabetics, regardless of the source of the sugar or the amount of sugar in the blood, there is not enough glucose transported into the body's cells. As a result, there is not enough energy for the cells to function



normally, and, the tissues become starved for energy. This state of metabolic “starvation” causes the body to breakdown fat and muscle tissue, which is then converted by the liver to sugar. (This breakdown of body tissues results in the weight loss often seen in diabetic patients.)

What pets are at risk?

Diabetes in dogs and cats can occur at any age. However, diabetic dogs are usually 4-14 years of age and most are diagnosed at roughly 7-10 years of age. Most diabetic cats are older than 6 years of age. Diabetes occurs in female dogs twice as often as male dogs. Certain breeds of dogs may be predisposed to diabetes. Obesity is a significant risk factor for development of diabetes. As dogs and cats age, they may also develop other diseases that can result in diabetes or could significantly affect their response to treatment for diabetes, including overactivity of the adrenal gland in dogs (hyperadrenocorticism) or overactivity of the thyroid gland in cats (hyperthyroidism), pancreatitis, heart disease, kidney disease, urinary tract infections and skin infections. The long-term use of medications containing corticosteroids is also a risk factor for diabetes.

What are the signs of diabetes in pets?

Noticing the early signs of diabetes is the most important step in taking

care of your pet. If you see any of the following signs, your pet should be examined by a veterinarian. The earlier the diagnosis, the better chance your pet may have for a longer and healthier life. Excessive water drinking and increased urination

- Weight loss, even though there may be an increased appetite
- Decreased appetite
- Cloudy eyes (especially in dogs)
- Chronic or recurring infections (including skin infections and urinary infections)

How is diabetes diagnosed and treated?

Diabetes may be suspected based on the signs a pet is showing, but the diagnosis is confirmed by your veterinarian by finding consistent hyperglycemia and glycosuria. Although a diagnosis of diabetes is often relatively straightforward, your veterinarian may run additional blood tests to rule out other medical conditions seen in older pets. A urine culture might be recommended to rule out a urinary tract infection.

Once the diagnosis is confirmed, your veterinarian will prescribe an initial dose and type of insulin for your pet. Insulin cannot be given orally – it must be given by injection under the skin. Your veterinarian or veterinary technician will teach you how to give the insulin injections, which involve a very small needle

and are generally very well tolerated by the pet. It is not a one-size-fits-all treatment, your veterinarian may periodically need to adjust your pet's treatment regimen based on the results of monitoring. Dietary recommendations are an important part of treatment.

Successful treatment of diabetes requires regular examinations, blood and urine tests, and monitoring your pet's weight, appetite, drinking and urination.

Caring for diabetic pets

Dogs and cats with diabetes usually require lifelong treatment with special diets, a good fitness regimen and, particularly in dogs, daily insulin injections. The key to managing diabetic pets is to keep your pet's blood sugar near normal levels and avoid too-high or too-low levels that can be life-threatening. A treatment that works for one pet might not work as well for another pet, and patience is important as you and your pet adjust to the new diet and medications. Management of your diabetic pet may include some or all of the following:

Dogs

- A high-fiber diet is often recommended.
- Daily exercise is strongly recommended. Consult your veterinarian about an appropriate exercise program for your pet, considering factors such as weight, overall health and age.
- Owners should consider spaying female dogs diagnosed with diabetes.

Cats

- A high-protein, low carbohydrate diet is often recommended.
- Daily exercise is strongly recommended, although it can be challenging to practice a daily fitness regimen with cats. Your veterinarian may be able to help you develop a plan.

It is very important to maintain the proper insulin and feeding schedules recommended for your pet. It is also very important that your pet maintains a normal appetite while on insulin therapy, or you risk hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) if your pet



is not eating and absorbing enough sugars to balance the insulin's effect of removing the sugars from the bloodstream. You will also need to regularly check your pet's blood and urine sugar levels. Regular examinations and testing performed by your veterinarian may be supplemented by at-home monitoring of your pet's blood and urine glucose levels at home. Watch for the signs of an insulin overdose, which can include weakness, tremors or seizures, and loss of appetite. Contact your veterinarian or an emergency clinic immediately if you observe any of these signs, and consult your veterinarian about what you should do in the meantime to help your pet until it can be examined by a veterinarian. As signs of an insulin overdose can sometimes be very similar to signs of an insulin underdose, it is important that changes in dosage and frequency of insulin injections only be made by a veterinarian.

Because older dogs and cats are

more likely to develop age-related diseases or conditions, some of which could be confused with diabetes, regular examinations by a veterinarian can keep your pet healthy and detect problems before they become severe.

In addition, diabetic pets should be monitored for long-term complications such as cataracts, which commonly develop in diabetic dogs and cats. Other problems that can occur include hind leg weakness due to low blood potassium (hypokalemia), high blood pressure (hypertension), or lower urinary tract infections.

Diabetic dogs and cats can live long and healthy lives with proper management and veterinary care. If you notice any changes in your pet's behavior or weight, consult your veterinarian.

Please contact us with any questions or concerns.

Info taken from www.avma.org.

TALES *with* TAILS

08 NOV | 11:30AM

**PORTSMOUTH PUBLIC LIBRARY
1220 GALLIA ST, PORTSMOUTH, OH**



JOIN US FOR A DAY FULL OF MAGICAL STORIES AND PUPPY KISSES!



On November 08, 2022 Shawnee Animal Clinic will be partnering with the Portsmouth Public Library to host a story-time session with one of our therapy dogs. Portsmouth Public Library holds monthly story-time sessions, but this is the first time they will be including a therapy dog in one those sessions.

Our SAC Advertising Director, Cheyene Gonzalez, hopes that by partnering with the Portsmouth Public Library to include a therapy dog in story-time will not only bring happiness to the children, but also instill an interest of veterinary medicine in the minds of our youth.

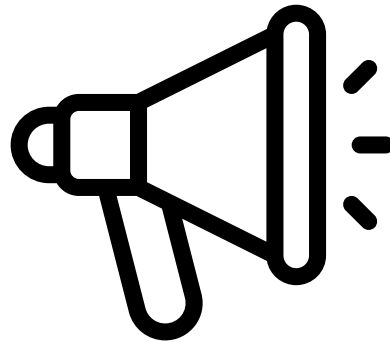


Upcoming Events

**TALES WITH TAILS:
STORIES AND PUPPIES**

At the Portsmouth Public Library

ATTENTION



SAC FYI

ANNOUNCEMENTS & GENERAL INFO

Follow Us On TikTok

Your friends at Shawnee Animal Clinic have now joined TikTok! Follow us on the app to see some hilarious and wholesome short veterinary related content. Our username is sacpets!

Follow Us On Instagram

Your friends at Shawnee Animal Clinic have now joined Instagram! Follow us on the app to see exclusive content. Our username is @sacpets!

Heartgard/Nexgard Fall Savings

We are offering free doses of Heartgard and NexGard now until November 2022 on eligible Heartgard & NexGard products. Savings are as follows:

When you purchase 6 doses of an eligible Heartgard product, you receive 1 dose of Heartgard for free.

When you purchase 6 doses of an eligible NexGard product, you receive 1 dose of NexGard for free.

November 2022

Pet Diabetes Month

30	31	01 International Pet Groomer Appreciation Day Let's celebrate our amazing groomers at SAC today!	02	03	04	05
06	07 Canine Lymphoma Awareness Day Join us in spreading awareness of Canine Lymphoma.	08 Tales With Tails Join us at the Portsmouth Public Library for story time with a therapy dog!	09	10	11	12
13 World Kindness Day Spread a little love and kindness on this day that focuses on being kind to others.	14	15	16 National Slobber Appreciation Day Who doesn't enjoy some slobbery dog kisses?	17 National Take a Hike Day Enjoying the great outdoors is not only good for you, but it's good for your pets too! Go take a hike!	18	19
20	21	22	23 Wolfenoot This annual New Zealand holiday celebrates the Spirit of the Wolf. It's about celebrating our pack, human and animal, and helping where we can.	24 Thanksgiving Today is the day to show the world what you're thankful for. We sure are thankful for our SAC family!	25	26
27	28	29	30			

EVENTS BY SAC ARE IN RED