

**December
2018**

Rhodes Vet Clinic



**Volume 8
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Newsletter

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic
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Snake Bite—ALL Species!

With things starting to warm up the season for snakebites is well upon us having already dealt with a few. Not all animals respond in the same way and it can be helpful to know what signs to look for in them.



Dogs generally show signs within 10 minutes but it can be longer if only a small dose of venom was transferred by the bite. They will become weak in the back end, start to tremble and begin to pant uncontrollably. Their pupils become enlarged and in some cases they can vomit or have a bout of diarrhoea. Snail bite ingestion can look similar so if you have these in your garden please let the vet know, as this is just as much of an emergency.

Time is of the essence and they will die without antivenin and intravenous fluid therapy. Please do not be fooled by home made therapies as they do not work ...your dog will die if not treated!

Cats present differently often and only show signs 24 hours later. Early on they are weak and appear to bunny hop when moving. This then progresses to them becoming completely floppy and unable to stand. They too will have dilated pupils. Antivenin is not as essential but a trip to the vet for intravenous fluid therapy is required.

Cows are also affected by snakebites. They will often become wobbly, go off their milk and have laboured breathing. These animals are often cool to touch and their eyes are very sunken. They too require antivenin treatment and if do not receive this before they collapse treatment becomes point less.

Horses can also be affected. When bitten on the foot signs can be mild leading to swelling, pain and sloughing of tissue. Bites to the nose that has a lot of blood supply are more serious. They will appear wobbly and having difficulty breathing leading to collapse and colic like signs. Veterinary treatment is required in severe cases.

We provide:

- Surgery & Medicine for small and large animals
- Herd Health Advice
- Soft Tissue & Orthopaedic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Digital X-ray
- Ultrasound
- In House Blood Testing
- Nutrition
- Prescription Diets
- Microchip Identification

Simpson Office:

Our Simpson Office is open
Monday & Friday
10am to 3pm
P: 03 5594 3257

Colac Office:

Our Colac Office is open
Monday to Friday
8am to 6pm
Saturday 9am to 12 noon
www.rhodesveterinaryclinic.com.au

**We are available 24/7
for emergencies.
Our emergency number
is:**

5232 2111

Christmas 2018:

Mike, Peter, Cindy, Kirsty, Kay, Leanne and Diane would like to wish all our valued clients and their pets a very Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year!

We thank you for your patronage and look forward to 2019



EARLY CLOSURE:

The Clinics will be closing at 1pm on **FRIDAY, 14th December** to allow the hardworking Staff to enjoy a Christmas get together and will reopen on **MONDAY, 17th December**

We will have a Vet on call from 12 noon on **Saturday, 15th December** for any emergencies.

We apologise for any inconvenience



The Clinic will be closed only for the Public Holidays....

Wednesday, 25th December - Christmas Day

Thursday, 26th December - Boxing Day

Wednesday, 1st January - New Year's Day

We will be available on 5232 2111 for any emergencies.