**Bleeding Wounds**

We would like to discuss some basic rules in regards to bleeding and choking that could be some assistance in cases of emergency. Pet First Aid is NOT a replacement for veterinary care. When dealing with injuries first things first. **Make sure you are in a safe environment to help the pet and then always secure your pet.** Even your well behaved dog or cat will bite if he or she is in pain.

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|  | **Minor:** Flush with water, saline/eye wash or hydrogen peroxide. Use styptic powder to control bleeding toe nails and watch to make sure injury doesn’t become infected. **Severe:** Apply **DIRECT PRESSURE** with gauze to stop the bleeding. **ELEVATE** the limb if bleeding hasn’t stopped. Apply **PRESSURE** to one of the **5 PRESSURE POINTS** to diminish blood flow. You need to maintain pressure long enough for the blood to clot; this can take upwards of 10 to 15 minutes. Secure with gauze roll bandage and self-adhering bandage making sure you can slip a finger underneath so that it’s not too tight. **Then seek professional help.**  |

**Choking**

* Give the pet a minute to cough up the object on their own.
* Perform a careful swept of the mouth to remove the object. No blind sweeping.
* Do not pick your pet up: get down on all fours to your pets level.
* You can pick your pet up by the rear end only, wheel barrel style, letting gravity work to assist you.
* Use the heal of your hand to deliver blows between the shoulder blades.
* Preform side compressions with hands on either side of the ribcages.
* You can perform a Heimlich like maneuver on pets.
* Continue the process until they spit it out, swallow it or become unconscious.

**Remain Calm…
Choking is not the immediate hazard
Be prepared for what to do after they SPIT IT OUT, SWALLOW IT
or become unconscious. (Refer to page on CPR)**

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