

## Part of Loving is Protecting ...

In the unfortunate event that your pet becomes ill, or is hurt, you will need to bring them in for treatment and this can sometimes be costly. This month we are highlighting the benefits of pet health insurance which offers pet owners a method of budgeting for the unexpected through a series of affordable monthly payments.

### What is pet insurance?

We don't think twice about insuring our homes, our cars or our lives, but what about our pets? Veterinary fees can be costly so it makes sense to insure our pets' health as well. With pet health insurance you can be sure that your pet will receive medical attention. A pet health insurance policy will assist you during unexpected situations by sharing in the cost of veterinary care for your pet.

### How much does it cost?

Costs will vary on the type of cover you choose and Petplan offer a variety of six plans to accommodate pet owners requirements and budget.

### How does it work?

Your pet is treated by your chosen veterinarian or specialist, and having paid your account to your veterinarian, you submit a claim to the insurance company, who will reimburse you, a large portion of the total. There will be exclusions and sublimits depending on the individual policy.

### How do I get pet insurance?

Speak to any of our staff at Tudor Glen Vet Clinic who will be happy to explain in further detail the benefits of pet insurance and assist you in completing the application form. We have a unique policy number which will enable you to receive insurance cover, on the fast-track program, within 48 hours of enrolling. Alternatively you can contact Petplan direct on: 1 800 268-1169, or visit their website at [www.petplan.com](http://www.petplan.com)



73% of pet owners would go into debt to provide for their pet's well being

67% of pet owners visit the vet more often than their own doctor

1 in 3 pets experience a new illness or injury requiring veterinary care each year

## Opening Soon ... New Bereavement Room



*We understand that the act of saying goodbye is an important step in managing the natural feelings of grief, sorrow, and loss. Your pet is an important part of your life and it is natural to feel you are losing a friend or companion, because you are. We, at Tudor Glen, are very proud to be able to offer you a dedicated private bereavement room for you to say goodbye to your pet in an environment that feels like a home and not a clinic. If you would like more information about our new bereavement room please talk to our staff here at the clinic, or call us on (780) 458-6051*



Throughout March 2007 Petplan have joined together with industry partners to sponsor a great contest celebrating responsible pet ownership! A grand prize, valued at \$3,000 could be yours!

For further details please speak to any of our staff.



## How do I select a food for my pet?

We, as veterinarians, are focusing more and more on “wellness” or preventive medicine. We stress twice yearly health check-ups and vaccines. We encourage daily tooth brushing in an effort to prevent dental disease. What more can we do to help you provide excellent care for your pet? We recommend superior nutrition, in an attempt to minimize the risk for many health conditions. Nutrition plays a key role in the prevention of diabetes, joint disease, weight management, liver and kidney disease. Always select a food that is appropriate for your pet's lifestage and lifestyle. Choose well-balanced, superior quality foods and avoid excesses in any one nutrient, such as protein. Please ask our onsite nutritionist, Kathy, if you have any questions or concerns about your pet's diet, and how food impacts their well-being.



## FIRST AID ESSENTIALS

### THAT COULD SAVE YOUR PET'S LIFE

#### Swallowed Poisons

**Signs:** Vomiting, altered breathing, muscle tremors, twitching, convulsions, blue, pale or very red gums, burns on the mouth or tongue, salivation/drooling, wobbling, altered mental state (may appear disoriented, sensitive to light or sound and hallucinating).

- Do NOT induce vomiting if the poison is unknown or if the animal has already vomited or is not completely conscious - vomiting should only be induced under advice from a veterinarian.
- If your pet has swallowed a corrosive substance, do NOT induce vomiting. Wash the substance off its mouth and face with water. Within 10 minutes of ingesting the substance give the animal milk and contact your vet immediately.
- If your pet has swallowed an acidic or petroleum-based substance, do NOT induce vomiting. Wash the substance off its mouth and face with water. Within 10 minutes of ingesting the substance, give the animal milk or water.
- **Call a poison control centre, animal emergency centre or veterinary hospital for assistance.**



#### The Alberta Poison Centre

For poisoning emergencies and questions please call:

**1-800-332-1414**

(403) 944-1414 (Calgary)



## DIABETES MELLITUS AWARENESS

### How do I know if my pet has diabetes?

“Symptoms” associated with diabetes can also be caused by other diseases. If any of the following statements apply to your pet, you and your companion should see your veterinarian for a check-up.

- Drinks a lot of water (more often than before)
- Urines frequently
- Is always hungry
- Has lost weight
- My dog's eyes appear cloudy
- My cat walks on it's hocks (looks like a rabbit)
- My pet sleeps more or is less active

### Diabetes is confirmed. What can I do?

Diabetes can be controlled. Insulin injections are the most efficient way to control the disease and if it has been found that your pet has other problems as well, your veterinarian will suggest the appropriate treatment. A treatment program will be set up and will include recommendations for feeding your pet, regular exercise and insulin treatment. Daily insulin injections are essential to control the blood glucose level in your animal. Some diabetic patients will require one injection each day, while others will have to be injected twice-a-day. Once you and your pet have established a routine things will be easier and your pet will be healthier.

### My pet is regulated – what is next?

Regulation often goes very well for years. It is recommended to see your veterinarian on a regular basis (2-4 times a year). On these occasions a general examination will be performed and rechecking the blood glucose level may be advised.

A well regulated pet has the same life expectancy as a non-diabetic pet. Good communication between you and your veterinarian, and adhering to the treatment regimen will help keep your pet healthy. Both of you will enjoy life together for many years.



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