



Collaroy Veterinary Services

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Information sheet

Dangerous foods

Certain human foods are dangerous to your dog

Here are some common examples:

- Chocolate – contains theobromine, which is a cardiac and nervous system stimulant. Ingestion of chocolate, particularly dark chocolate, can lead to heart arrhythmias, tremors and seizures.
- Sweet biscuits – are very high in fat and sugar and low in nutritional value.
- Cooked bones – can splinter and may stick in the throat or intestine. They could also damage teeth and may cause constipation.
- Sultanas, grapes, raisins – may lead to acute kidney failure in dogs.
- Onions (and to a lesser extent, garlic) – can cause damage to the membranes of red blood cells that results in a haemolytic anaemia. Any form (raw, cooked or powder) can lead to severe anaemia. Signs generally develop days after ingestion and include breathlessness, weakness and blood coloured urine.
- Avocado – contains a toxin called persin which leads to gastrointestinal irritation, including vomiting and diarrhoea.
- Raw egg whites – contain avidin that can interfere with the absorption of biotin (a B vitamin). Chronic biotin deficiencies can lead to poor growth, lethargy and dermatitis. Raw eggs may also contain salmonella.
- Macadamia nuts – can cause locomotory problems such as weakness, tremors or paralysis in the hind legs. A toxic dose of roasted macadamia nuts may be as little as one nut per kilogram of body weight in the dog.



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