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# Editor's Note



### Celebrating Love, Care & Companionship

Dear Readers,

February and March bring with them a season that celebrates love in its purest forms. While Valentine's Day often reminds us of human relationships, there is another bond equally powerful, unconditional, and deeply therapeutic — the bond we share with our pets.

At PETnVET, we believe that love is not just an emotion; it is a responsibility. It reflects in every balanced meal we provide, every timely vaccination, every preventive health check, and every moment of care we dedicate to our companion animals. True affection for pets goes beyond treats and toys — it is rooted in science-backed nutrition, ethical veterinary care, and sustainable practices that ensure long, healthy lives.

This edition is thoughtfully curated around the theme of **"Love in Action."** Inside, you will find expert insights on preventive healthcare, nutrition strategies, behavioral wellness, and sustainable pet parenting — all aimed at helping you express your love in ways that truly matter. Because informed care is the highest form of compassion.

As the pet care industry continues to evolve rapidly in India, the role of responsible pet ownership, professional veterinary services, and quality pet products has never been more critical. Through PETnVET, our mission remains steadfast: to bridge knowledge between veterinarians, pet parents, nutritionists, and industry leaders so that every animal receives the care it deserves.

This season, let's celebrate love not just with gestures, but with commitment — commitment to better health, better awareness, and better lives for our furry family members.

On behalf of the entire PETnVET team, thank you for being part of our growing community that champions animal welfare and professional excellence.

Here's to stronger bonds, healthier pets, and a season filled with warmth and wagging tails.

Warm regards,

**Sudhir Aheriya**

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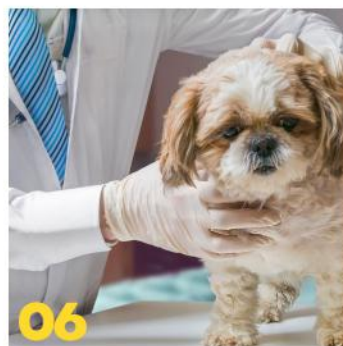
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# SHIH TZU

## SKIN ALLERGIES

### CAUSES, SYMPTOMS AND TREATMENTS

You already know that Shih Tzu are great companions if you own one with its long coat, big eyes and adorable personality. However, there are also health sensitivities about Shih Tzu. Shih Tzu skin allergies are a frequent issue for many owners. Unattended, these allergies can progress to painful skin infections or aggravate the existing ailments. This guide will help you understand the causes, identify the signs, and locate effective treatments.

#### Why Shih Tzus Are Prone to Skin Allergies

The unique characteristics of Shih Tzus, such as long, dense hair, floppy ears, and skin folds, indicate they are more prone to skin problems than other breeds. These are the triggers of Shih Tzu skin allergies:

- 🐾 Environmental allergens, such as dust mites, pollen, mould, or household cleaning chemicals, may irritate the skin or cause dermatitis.
- 🐾 Flea bites/parasite exposure: A single bite of a flea can result in severe itching if your Shih Tzu has a dermatitis with flea allergy.
- 🐾 Food sensitivities or food allergies: specific proteins or components (meat, grains, additives) can cause allergic reactions, resulting in skin problems.
- 🐾 Fungal/yeast overgrowth: humid weather (as in most of India) may encourage fungal or yeast problems on the skin, resulting in skin infections in Shih Tzus or fungal infection Shih Tzus.
- 🐾 Moisture under coats or between skin folds: insufficient grooming and poor skin hygiene may aggravate an allergy or lead to secondary infections.

For these reasons, skin allergies in Shih Tzus are more prevalent than in most other breeds. Timely diagnosis and treatment are essential.

#### Recognising Symptoms: When to Suspect Skin Allergy or Infection

Early detection of signs can help prevent a simple irritation from developing into a long-lasting skin condition. Be aware of the following symptoms, particularly when they do not resolve. Normal symptoms of Shih Tzu skin infection or allergies are:

- 🐾 Constant scratching, licking or chewing, particularly of paws, ears, belly, skin folds.
- 🐾 Rubor, inflammation, or skin swelling can be either local or general.
- 🐾 Loss of hair, balding, scanty hair, especially where there is a persistent scratching or irritation.
- 🐾 Flaky or dandruff, dry or oily seborrhea may be seen; dandruff may be accompanied by itchiness and smell.
- 🐾 Hot spots, sores or crusted wounds: Raw or scabbed areas of skin, sometimes oozing or painful.
- 🐾 Ear issues: ear infection, itching ears, sour smell. Ear problems can be caused by allergies or moisture.

In other instances, the skin allergies go hand in hand with other breed-specific problems - like the Shih Tzu Eye infections (because of rubbing/scratching) or Shih Tzu Dental problems (stress and poor hygiene usually disrupt the general health), which further reiterates the importance of holistic care.

# DR.Goel's Homeopathy For Pets



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### Diagnosing the Problem: Work with a Vet

In case you observe any of the symptoms mentioned above, do not delay. Chronic skin disease can be prevented by early diagnosis. A vet will typically:

- 🐾 Inspect the skin and coat, ears, folds, paws, and belly under or behind the ears.
- 🐾 Examine parasites (fleas, mites) or evidence of fungal/yeast proliferation.
- 🐾 Potentially do skin scrapings or fur samples for testing under a microscope (mites, fungal spores, bacteria).
- 🐾 Refer to allergy tests; environmental or food allergies may be the cause in some cases.

After establishing the root cause, whether it is fleas, contact irritants, food sensitivity, fungal infection, etc., the vet can then come up with a treatment plan specific to your Shih Tzu.

### Treatment & Care: Managing Shih Tzu Skin Allergies

Treatment of Shih Tzu skin allergies is a multistage process. The following are typical measures which aid in recovering skin health and comfort.

#### Remove / Reduce Allergen Exposure

- 🐾 Frequent showering with a weak, hypoallergenic shampoo appropriate for sensitive skin. This will aid in removing pollen, dust, or other domestic allergens.
- 🐾 Groom coat neatly. Use a brush to cleanse the coat frequently to remove dead hair and debris, and to prevent matting, as this traps moisture and allergens.
- 🐾 Maintain cleanliness of living places: wash bedding, vacuum to eliminate dust mites, no strong detergents/chemicals or scented cleaning agents.
- 🐾 Prevent flea/tick (in wet climates in particular).

### Use Medicated or Dermatological Treatments



Depending on the cause, the vet may prescribe:

- 🐾 Medicated shampoos or topical sprays aid in alleviating irritation, yeast or fungal growth, and inflammation. This is used to treat fungal infections in Shih Tzus or bacterial skin infection in Shih Tzu.
- 🐾 Oral drugs or antihistamines in case of severe allergy reactions (food or environmental), to prevent itch and inflammation.
- 🐾 Special diet (hypoallergenic or limited ingredient) in case of suspicion of food allergy. Flare-ups are usually decreased by changing the diet.

### Maintain Skin & Coat Hygiene

- ❁ Wash your Shih Tzu more often to avoid matting or stagnant water.
- ❁ Wash off after walks - particularly in dusty, pollen or moist places.
- ❁ Wipe all the skin after a bath or washing - wet skin may promote fungal or bacterial growth.

### Keep an Eye on Related Health Areas

Since your Shih Tzu can also have Shih Tzu Eye problems (e.g., rubbing eyes due to skin discomfort) and Shih Tzu Dental issues (stress and health imbalance can affect the immune response), it is essential to groom your dog regularly and have it checked by a veterinarian.

### Preventive Care: Keep Skin Healthy Year-Round

Prevention is vital for breeds such as the Shih Tzu. The risks can be minimised in the following way:

- ❁ Eat a healthy diet rich in nutrients (omega-3s, etc.) to support healthy skin and coat.
- ❁ Brush often - 2-3 times a week, cut off hair to prevent mats and retention of moisture.
- ❁ Prevention of fleas and ticks (particularly in the Indian climate, damp or dusty places).
- ❁ Maintain clean living environments and be free. Wash pet bedding regularly.
- ❁ During wet or humid seasons, take baths, dry the skin and keep well ventilated.
- ❁ Check pet behaviour - make an early visit to the vet if there are signs of scratching, hair loss, or skin alterations.

The frequency of skin infection in Shih Tzu or fungal infection Shih Tzus can be limited through preventive measures in most instances.



### Why Timely Treatment Matters

Ignorance of skin allergies can lead to even more serious problems:

- ❁ Frequent scratching can cause open wounds, sore or hot spots, and Shih Tzu skin infections. They can be long-term treated or even be treated with antibiotics/antifungals.
- ❁ The defects of the immune system in the long run can lead to ear infection, vision issues, or overall illness.
- ❁ Quality of life Loss: your pet may suffer relentless pain, become petulant, avoid eating, and become anorectic.

Delays can be avoided by acting in time and ensuring that your Shih Tzu is a healthy, comfortable, and happy dog.

### How Goel Vet Pharma Can Help — Your Trusted Source for Shih Tzu Medicine

At Goel Vet Pharma, we are familiar with the special needs of the Shih Tzu. They should be treated specially because of their luxurious coat, sensitive skin and their special health predispositions.

Our products include pet-specific medications: dermatology-safe shampoos, topical sprays, skin and coat health supplements, and supportive care products that meet the needs of a dog with an allergy tendency.

Our catalogue has products that will facilitate the healing of skin, reduce swelling, and address secondary infections in case of any signs of Shih Tzu skin allergies, fungus, bacteria, or other forms of discomfort.

With good Shih Tzu medicine from someone you can trust, it can really make a difference in how your pet recovers and in their skin in the long run.

### Conclusion

Shih Tzu skin allergies are common but manageable—if you act promptly and carefully. Shih Tzu's skin allergies are not an exception and can be managed, though only with swift and proper action. Shih Tzu has a long coat, sensitive skin, and a tendency to skin and ear disorders, thus requiring careful grooming and prompt attention.

You can prevent chronic skin problems in your pet by learning what causes them, what to watch for early, and using preventive treatment in addition to proper treatment. Grooming, good living environment, nutrition, and high-quality Shih Tzu medication should be used when necessary.

At Goel Vet Pharma, we aim to help pet parents find high-quality breed-specific care solutions. If your Shih Tzu shows signs of allergies, itching, hair loss, or skin irritation, it is worth a look at our products.

Visit us now and check out our skin-care and allergy-relief product lineup for Shih Tzu. Provide your pet with the comfort, care and healthy skin it needs...





# TOP SIGNS YOUR DOG IS STRESSED OR ANXIOUS

**D**ogs cannot say “*I am nervous.*” They express it through their body. Sometimes anxiety is loud (whining, barking, pacing). Other times, it's so subtle that it often goes unnoticed until tension grows into a larger behavioural issue.

In this article: we will explore how body cues reveal emotional states. Anxiety is one of the most important emotions to recognise early, because a stressed dog signals discomfort long before a bark or bite happens.

## Why Recognising Stress Matters

Early detection prevents:

- 🐾 *Aggressive outbursts*
- 🐾 *Destructive behaviour*
- 🐾 *Social withdrawal*
- 🐾 *Fear-based reactions*
- 🐾 *Separation anxiety*
- 🐾 *Long-term emotional instability*

A confident dog is a happy dog: and that confidence grows when we respond gently and correctly.

## Common Signs of Stress and Anxiety in Dogs

### 1. Panting or Pacing With No Heat or Exercise

Excessive panting without activity is often emotional, not physical.

Pacing around a room shows restlessness and inability to settle.

### 2. Tail Tucked or Held Low

A direct anxiety cue: The lower the tail, the higher the insecurity.

### 3. Avoiding Eye Contact

Eyes shifting away, slow blinking, unwillingness to hold gaze.

### 4. Pinned-Back Ears

Flattened ears signal fear or uncertainty: especially when paired with a lowered body posture.

### 5. Excessive Yawning or Lip-Licking

These are displacement behaviours: ways dogs self-soothe when overwhelmed.



**Dr Akanksha Diwakar**  
Head - Marketing  
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### 6. Shaking, Trembling or Freezing in Place

Not always cold: often emotional stress or fear of the environment.

### 7. Whining, Barking or Growling Sudden Triggers

Vocal output is a final stage: body language appears first.

## Emotional Triggers That Cause Anxiety

Dogs may feel stressed because of:

- 🐾 *Loud noises (thunder, fireworks)*
- 🐾 *New environments or unfamiliar people*
- 🐾 *Change in routine or separation from owner*
- 🐾 *Past trauma or negative conditioning*
- 🐾 *Over-excited play turning uncomfortable*
- 🐾 *Health or digestive discomfort*

Sometimes anxiety starts during playful interactions too.

## How to Calm a Stressed or Anxious Dog

### 1. Give Space and Reduce Stimulation

Don't force touch or interaction. Let your dog come to you on their terms.

### 2. Soft Voice + Gentle Presence

Calm energy lowers stress faster than commands or restraint.

### 3. Create Safe Zones at Home

A quiet bed corner, soft blanket, favourite toy: emotional safety matters.

#### 4. Use Slow Petting Instead of Excitement

Long, gentle strokes reassure better than fast playful petting.

#### 5. Practice Confidence-Building Activities

Short walks, sniff time, puzzle toys, structured play.

#### 6. Support Emotional Balance Through Diet

Dogs with unstable energy may react quicker to stress. Providing balanced nutrition like Bowlers Dog Food supports:

- 🐾 *Steady energy release*
- 🐾 *Better digestion → calmer mood*
- 🐾 *Improved cognitive response*
- 🐾 *Reduced irritability and hyper-reactivity*

A well-filled stomach nurtures a well-regulated nervous system.

#### Natural Remedies to Ease Anxiety

- 🐾 *Calming chews or treats*
- 🐾 *Lavender diffusers (pet-safe usage only)*
- 🐾 *Massaging ears and shoulders*
- 🐾 *Longer sniff-walks instead of fast walks*
- 🐾 *Background calming music*
- 🐾 *Slow feeding bowls for mealtime relaxation*

Consistency beats intensity: small daily habits build emotional stability for life.

## NATURAL LEARNING PATH

Understanding stress becomes easier when you connect all communication cues:

Topic	Why It Helps
1 Tail Signals	Anxiety shows clearly through tail height and speed
2 Eye Contact Cues	Stress often begins with gaze avoidance
3 Head Tilt Meaning	Tilt + hesitation sometimes signals uncertainty
4 Play vs Aggression	Stress can escalate into misinterpreted aggression

All five Sections together form the complete language of dogs.

#### 1. Can stress make dogs aggressive?

Yes: fear often triggers defensive reactions. Learn early cues (tail + eyes) to prevent escalation.

#### 2. Why does my dog get anxious suddenly?

Changes in environment, loud sound, new pets/people, or internal discomfort can trigger instant stress.

#### 3. How long does stress last in dogs?

Minutes to days depending on the trigger. Comfort, routine, and secure environment reduce duration.

#### 4. Can food affect anxiety?

Absolutely. A stable, balanced diet like **Dog Food** helps regulate energy spikes and improves behavioural temperament.

#### 5. Should I hug a stressed dog?

Not always. Some dogs want closeness, others need space. Observe **body cues first...**



## QUESTIONS FREQUENTLY ASK



# SUSTAINABLE PET CARE

## Building Healthier Pets and a Greener Planet

Dr. Pawar Rutik Namdev<sup>1</sup> (MVSc Scholar)

Dr. Shipra Tiwari<sup>1</sup> (MVSc Scholar)

**E**nvironmentally responsible pet care is not simply about buying green products—it is about creating a lifestyle that supports animal health while protecting the environment. As the global pet population grows, so does the environmental footprint of pet food production, waste disposal, grooming products, and healthcare. A sustainable approach ensures that pets live long, healthy lives without harming nature.

Preventive health care plays a key role in sustainability. When animals remain healthy, they require fewer medicines, fewer veterinary visits, and fewer chemical treatments. This reduces pharmaceutical waste, packaging, and chemical runoff into soil and water. Proper nutrition, regular exercise, vaccination schedules, parasite control, and hygiene together form the foundation of a truly eco-friendly pet care system.

### Preventive Care as a Tool for Environmental Protection

Preventive care is one of the most powerful yet overlooked tools in environmental sustainability. Regular health checkups, clean housing, nutritious diets, and adequate exercise help animals resist disease naturally. Healthy pets need fewer antibiotics, fewer chemical-based treatments, and fewer emergency interventions.

Every medicine manufactured requires raw materials, plastic packaging, energy, and transportation. By keeping pets healthy through preventive care, we reduce demand for these products and minimize environmental pollution. Clean feeding bowls, fresh

water, and hygienic bedding further reduce infections, improving overall sustainability.

### Natural and Herbal Treatments: A Greener Option

Natural remedies derived from herbs, plants, and essential oils offer eco-friendly solutions for minor ailments such as skin irritation, digestion issues, and stress. When used under veterinary supervision, these remedies are safe, effective, and biodegradable.

Unlike synthetic drugs, plant-based products break down naturally and do not pollute waterways or soil. They also reduce the risk of chemical residues entering the food chain. Many veterinarians now recommend herbal supplements and probiotics as part of preventive healthcare.

### Environmental Quality and Its Impact on Pet Health

The environment in which pets live directly affects their health. Polluted air can cause breathing difficulties, while contaminated water can lead to stomach and kidney problems. Chemical-based cleaning products, pesticides, and air fresheners can trigger allergies, skin infections, and even long-term illnesses. A clean, green home environment improves immunity, energy levels, and comfort. Using non-toxic cleaners, improving ventilation, and avoiding chemical sprays protects pets from invisible environmental dangers. Plants that purify air, proper sunlight, and clean flooring also contribute to a healthier living space.



### Eco-Friendly Homes for Pets

Sustainable pet housing includes well-ventilated rooms, natural lighting, safe flooring, and non-toxic furniture. Plastic cages and chemically treated wood can release harmful gases. Instead, metal, bamboo, or untreated wood structures are safer and more durable. Using washable bedding, cotton mats, and reusable blankets reduces waste while maintaining hygiene. These small changes significantly improve both environmental and pet health.

### Pet-Safe and Environmentally Friendly Gardening

Gardens and outdoor play areas must be safe for pets. Chemical fertilizers and pesticides used in lawns and flower beds can be toxic. Pets may absorb these chemicals through their paws or by licking grass. Organic gardening uses compost, neem-based sprays, and natural pest control methods. These protect plants while keeping pets safe. Pet-friendly plants such as marigolds, basil, and roses also create calming environments.

Trees and shaded areas reduce heat stress, while grass and soil improve mental and physical well-being.

### Innovations in Sustainable Pet Waste Management

Pet waste contributes significantly to urban pollution. Plastic bags and traditional litter remain in landfills for centuries. Eco-friendly solutions such as biodegradable bags, compostable litter, and natural odor control systems now offer better alternatives. Some cities are developing pet waste recycling plants that convert waste into compost or bienergy. These innovations reduce landfill pressure while supporting circular economy models.

### Teaching Children Sustainable Pet Habits

Children who grow up learning eco-friendly pet care develop lifelong respect for animals and the environment. Simple habits such as turning off taps while bathing pets, reusing bowls, and cleaning cages properly teach responsibility. Schools, NGOs, and animal shelters are increasingly including sustainability in pet education programs. This ensures future generations become environmentally aware pet guardians.

### Eco-Friendly Emergency Preparedness

During disasters, pets often suffer due to lack of planning. Reusable emergency kits containing stainless steel bowls, cloth leashes, washable bedding, and refillable water bottles reduce plastic waste and ensure safety.

Well-planned kits also prevent panic buying, which often leads to unnecessary waste and poor-quality products.

### Global Movement Toward Sustainable Pet Care

Across the world, governments and companies are adopting green policies. Biodegradable packaging, cruelty-free testing, ethical breeding, and sustainable manufacturing are becoming industry standards. Veterinary organizations and animal welfare groups promote eco-friendly practices through education and awareness campaigns.

### The Future of Green Pet Care

The future of pet care lies in innovation. Biodegradable toys, plant-based pet foods, smart feeders, energy-efficient pet homes, and digital vet services will further reduce environmental impact. As awareness grows, sustainable pet care will become the new normal.

### Final Conclusion

Eco-friendly pet care is about harmony—between pets, people, and the planet. Every sustainable choice improves the quality of life for animals while protecting natural resources.

When we care for pets responsibly, we also care for the Earth...



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# सावधानी में ही बचाव है!

डा० जय नारायण सिंह

सेवा निवृत्त जिला पशुपालन पदाधिकारी, बिहार, पटना

अंग्रेजी के डॉग शब्द का हिन्दी अनुवादित शब्द अनेक है, कुछ प्रिय, तो कुछ अप्रिय। इनमें से एक शब्द का उपयोग सार्वजनिक रूप में सामान्यतया होता है। यदि इस शब्द को हटा दिया जाय तो हिन्दी के कई प्रचलित मुहावरे अर्थहीन हो जायेंगे। इस जीव को मनुष्य का अनुचर, सहचर, आज्ञाकारी, विश्वस्त तथा रक्षक के रूप में पुरातन काल से माना जा रहा है। अनेक विशेषणों से विभूषित यह जीव इन दिनों काफी खूंखार हो गया है। इसके दो स्वरूप हैं। एक डॉग लवर्स के लिए काफी प्रिय विदेशी स्वरूप तो दूसरा सर्वहारा के बीच रहने वाला देशी स्वरूप। दोनों के जीवन स्तर में काफी अंतर है। एक अय्याशी और आरामतलबी जीवन व्यतीत करने का आदी हो चुका है तो दूसरा सामान्य माहौल में दूसरों के रहमों करम पर जीने को अभ्यस्त है। इन दोनों स्वरूप वाले जीवों का खूंखारपन काफी बढ़ गया है। खासकर उस स्वरूप का जो किसी न किसी कारणवश आरामतलबी वाले जीवन से हटकर सामान्य स्वरूप के साथ घुलने-मिलने का असफल प्रयास कर रहा होता है। अपने जबड़े में मासूम बच्चों को दबाकर जान ले लेने वाला, बुजुर्गों को दौड़ा-दौड़ाकर काट खाने वाला, स्कूली छात्र-छात्राओं को भौक-भौककर घायल कर देने वाला इनकी तस्वीरें सोशल तथा प्रिन्ट मिडिया में काफी वायरल हो रही है। यह आकडा जब हद से पार करने लगा। माननीय सर्वोच्च न्यायालय ने स्वतः संज्ञान लिया। ग्यारह अगस्त 2025 को माननीय न्यायालय ने कुछ न्यायादेश दे डाले। इनमें इन जीवों के लिए सुरक्षित आश्रय स्थल का निर्माण, उनका संचालन, फीडिंग जोन

की व्यवस्था, जनसंख्या नियंत्रण हेतु नसबंदी, देशी डॉग को गोद लिया जाना आदि प्रमुख हैं। इस आदेश को लागू करने के लिए चार सप्ताह का समय सीमा भी निर्धारित कर दी गयी। न्यायादेश के आलोक में कई राज्यों ने सक्रियता दिखाई। घड़-पकड़, आश्रय स्थल में रखे जाने, बंध्याकरण, टीकाकरण आदि का लक्ष्य भी निर्धारित कर दिया गया। यद्यपि यह आदेश एन० सी० आर० नई दिल्ली के क्षेत्र में घटित घटनाओं के संदर्भ में था, परन्तु सर्वोच्च न्यायालय का आदेश पूरे देश के लिए बाध्यकारी है। तथाकथित अनेक डॉग लवर्स संगठन द्वारा आदेश के विभिन्न घटकों का सार्थक और निरर्थक अर्थ निकाले जाने लगे।

धरना प्रदर्शन विरोध के स्वर अन्य क्रियाकलापों के विरोध की तरह उठने लगे। सम्पन्न डॉग लवर्स इस विरोध अभियान में काफी मुखर पाये गये। यद्यपि खूंखार हुए इस जीव के आक्रमक रवैये से घटित नुकसान के प्रति डॉग लवर्स न्यायालय के आदेश के विरुद्ध काफी तूल देने लगे परन्तु अपने प्रिय जीव को मलमूत्र त्याग के लिए सार्वजनिक परिसर के उपयोग से बाज नहीं आये। ऐसे लोग इस गंभीरता से शायद अनभिज्ञ रहते हैं कि ये जीव सिर्फ अपने खूंखारपन रवैये के लिए खतरनाक नहीं हैं बल्कि रेबिज जैसे अन्य अनेक जूनोटिक बीमारी फैलाने के लिए भी जवाबदेह हैं। इन जूनोटिक बीमारियों में बैक्टीरियल, वायरल, परासाईटिक तथा अनेक डरमैटोलॉजिकल बीमारी महत्वपूर्ण हैं। सोशल मिडिया से लेकर प्रिन्ट मिडिया तक यह डिबेट का विषय बन गया।

कई प्रमुख सामाचार पत्रों ने इसे अपने सम्पादकीय का अंश तक बना डाला। पक्ष और विपक्ष में अनेक तर्क दिये जाने लगे। माननीय न्यायालय तक बात गयी और अंत में न्यायालय के पुनरीक्षित आदेश के आलोक में राज्य सरकारों द्वारा अनेक निर्देश निर्गत किए गए, जिनमें सिर्फ खूंखार हो चुके डॉग की ही घड़-पकड़, आश्रय स्थल में लाये जाने उनका नसबंदी कर पुनः उनके मूल स्थान पर छोड़े जाने का निर्देश था। इसके लिए एस० ओ० पी० तैयार किये गए जिसमें इनका टीकाकरण तथा मानवीय व्यवहार शामिल था। प्रश्न यह है कि कौन सा डॉग खूंखार है, कैसे पता चलेगा? आज का शांत डॉग कल खूंखार नहीं हो जाएगा—कौन बता सकता है? इनके खूंखारपन के कई कारण बताये जाते हैं जिनमें इन्हे अकारण छेड़ना, भोजन की कमी, ब्रीडिंग सीजन में हारमोनल चेन्जेज आदि प्रमुखता से गिनाये जाते हैं। ये नियम पहले से लागू थे। परंतु इस बार इस विषय की तह में जाकर इसके लिए पूर्व में गठित कौंसिल तथा स्थानीय अधिकारियों की निस्क्रियता की ओर भी इशारा किया गया। कई राज्यों में यह व्यवस्था कई वर्षों से लागू है। करोड़ों की लागत पर डॉग अस्पताल का निर्माण तथा कार्यक्रम के संचालन के लिए एजेन्सी का गठन कर लिये जाने की भी सूचना है। परंतु किसी न किसी कारण से आज तक कार्यक्रम प्रारंभ नहीं किया गया। इन कारणों में जीव जन्तु कल्याण बोर्ड से अनापत्ति प्रमाण पत्र नहीं मिल पाना भी एक प्रमुख कारण बताया जाता है।

विचारणीय विषय यह है कि इस कार्यक्रम की सफलता कहां तक सभव है? क्या तथाकथित डॉग लवर्स अपने डॉगी को मलमूत्र के परित्याग के लिए सार्वजनिक परिसर के उपयोग की आदत छोड़ देंगे? क्या अनजान

व्यक्तियों पर मौकना या उन्हें नुकसान पहुंचाना यह जीव छोड़ देगा? क्या टीकाकृत तथा बधियाकृत डॉगी खूंखार नहीं होते हैं? क्या यह जीव अन्य प्राणघातक संक्रामक जूनोटिक बीमारी का कारण नहीं होते हैं? क्या सम्भ्रात डॉग लवर्स विदेशी डॉग के बदले देशी डॉग को गोद लेंगे? इन समस्याओं का समाधान स्वयं के विवेक में छिपा है जिसके प्रति हर वर्ग के लोगो को जवाबदेह होना होगा। सिर्फ कानून की विवेचना, विरोध प्रदर्शन अथवा बहस से समस्या सुलझने वाली नहीं है।

व्यावहारिक तौर पर देखा जाय तो इस प्रकार के निर्देश और अनुदेश भावनात्मक होते हैं। विश्व रैबिज दिवस के अवसर पर विद्वानों द्वारा बताया गया कि रैबिज के नियंत्रण के लिए विभिन्न सरकारी विभागों के बीच समन्वय की आवश्यकता है। तात्पर्यतः जब तक इस फील्ड के सारे प्लेयर सक्रिय नहीं होंगे अपनी जवाबदेही को नहीं समझे तब तक संतोषजनक निष्कर्ष नहीं निकल पायेगा। हवा की झोंकोको की तरह ऐसे विषय आते हैं और चले जाते हैं। जाने के बाद शांति, किकर्तव्य िद्धता और शून्यता छोड़ जाते हैं। हया का यह झोंका अभी तक क्या छोड़ पाया है। सभी के लिए विचारणीय है। इसके लिए जन जागण की आवश्यकता है। नगर निगम को गंभीर होना होगा, डॉग लवर्स को जवाबदेह होना होगा, सरकारी तंत्र को सक्रिय होना होगा, एनिमल वर्थ कंट्रोल इकाईयों को अपनी पहचान कायम करनी होगी। मानना होगा कि "सावधानी में ही बचाव है नहीं तो ष्पतर्कता हटी की दुर्घटना घटी"...

## 2025-2026 UPCOMING EVENTS

**MAR 13-15**

**11<sup>TH</sup> NVF- INDIAN  
VETOPIA 2026**



- 📅 13-15 MARCH 2026
- 📍 MAYFAIR SPRING VALLEY RESORT, GUWAHATI, ASSAM
- ☎ +91-981170812, 9711140505
- 👤 DR. JASJEET JOSAN +91-981170812
- ✉ NVFWORLD@GMAIL.COM
- 🌐 WWW.NVF.WORLD

**MAR 17-19**

**24<sup>TH</sup> WSAVA CE INDIA  
17<sup>TH</sup> FSAPAI - NATIONAL  
SYMPOSIUM**



- 📅 17-19 APRIL 2026
- 📍 BRILLIANT CONVENTION CENTER, INDORE
- ☎ +91 98933 87894
- ✉ USAPAMPCG@GMAIL.COM
- 🌐 WWW.USAPAMPCG.COM/WSAVA-REGISTRATION

**MAY 12-15**

**INTERZOO 2026**



**Interzoo 2026**

- 📅 12 - 15 MAY 2026
- 📍 MESSEZENTRUM 1 90471 NÜRNBERG, GERMANY
- ☎ DIANA REICHERT - +49 9 11 86 06 84 70
- ✉ EXHIBITIONTEAM@INTERZOO.COM
- 🌐 WWW.INTERZOO.COM

**OCT 13-15**

**WSAVA CONGRESS 2026**



- 📅 13 - 15 OCTOBER 2026
- 📍 WARSAW, POLAND
- 🌐 WWW.WSAVA-CONGRESS.ORG

**NOV 12-15**

**CHINA INTERNATIONAL  
PET SHOW  
(CIPS 2026)**



- 📅 12 - 15 NOVEMBER 2026
- 📍 AREA B, CHINA IMPORT AND EXPORT FAIR COMPLEX, GUANGZHOU
- ☎ +86 10 88102345, +86 13810147850
- ✉ RENLING@CHGIE.COM
- 🌐 WWW.EN.CIPSCOM.COM



# Toxoplasmosis in Companion Animals

## Symptoms and their Prevention

Alok Kumar Singh<sup>1\*</sup>, Deepali Tiwari<sup>2</sup>, Pradeep Kumar<sup>3</sup>, S. Ramesh Bhumaiyya<sup>4</sup> and N. D. Hirani<sup>5</sup>

Toxoplasmosis infection is caused by a protozoan parasite called *Toxoplasma gondii*. It is one of the most common parasitic diseases, and is known to affect nearly all warm-blooded animals and has zoonotic importance as it causes abortion in pregnant women contacted with infected cat faeces. It is obligate intracellular intestinal parasite. The name toxoplasma (toxon = arc, plasma = form) is derived from crescent shape of the 'tachyzoite' stage i.e. infective stage of this parasite. Cats are recognized as the definitive host, as the parasite completes its life cycle in the cat's intestinal tract, passing back into the environment through the faeces. Wild and domestic cat act as main reservoir of infection. However, cats are not the only source of infection in dog population It can also transmit by congenital, carnivorous, faeco-oral route. The resistant oocyst in cat faeces ensure dissemination of parasite. The main source for *T. gondii* transmission is by consumption of raw meat and unwashed fruits and vegetables by humans and animals, generally animal who are carnivores get infection by consumption of infective stage of parasite. Both acute and chronic forms of toxoplasmosis exist, where the chronic form is usually a low-grade disease without any clinical symptoms, and the acute form is more symptomatic and severe.

Toxoplasmosis lifecycle includes enteroepithelial and extraintestinal route of multiplication. Generally, cats which ingest intermediate host with tissue infective stage causes release of bradyzoites in stomach and intestine which penetrate into intestinal tissues and convert into further stages of schizonts and merozoites forms male and female gamonts leading to fertilization which form oocyst. This oocyst gets released into faeces and in environment form sporozoites and infective to another host. While extraintestinal lifecycle is same for all host and ingestion of oocyst or sporozoites excyst in lumen of intestine and causes penetration of intestinal cells and various asexual stages are formed in process.

### Common Symptoms and Types

Cats are more commonly seen with clinical symptoms than dogs. Still, dogs can be made ill from this parasite, and may mimic other infections, such as canine distemper or rabies which make it essential to differential diagnoses with other suspected diseases. At increased risk are young dogs with developing immune systems, and dogs that have impaired immunity can develop severe form of disease manifestation. Adult dogs with vigorous immune system control the spread of parasite and. The following symptoms are known to occur in infected cats, and may also be seen in dogs:

- Neurological symptoms are seen in infected animal such as seizures, tremors, depression, lethargy, uncoordinated gait, muscle weakness, partial or complete paralysis, respiratory problems like shortness of breath, fever etc.

- Other sign includes- emaciation, anorectic, vomiting, diarrhoea, abdominal pain, jaundice.

### Causes

- Dogs become infected through contact with the *T. gondii* parasite, which may be acquired from rooting in infected soil or from ingesting cat feces.
- Dogs have habit of sniffing, digging, inspecting object which increases chances of getting infection present.
- Contact with cat faeces is common source of transmission.
- Even in humans; pregnant women get infection during working in garden infected with cat faeces containing oocyst.
- It causes abortion in women's and other signs in human population. It has zoonotic importance.
- Ingestion of rat meat infected with oocyst can also infection.

### Diagnosis

- On the basis of history, symptoms common in toxoplasmosis should be carefully checked during history taking by veterinarian to diagnose the disease.
- Some noticed symptoms can be found out by doing Clinical examination of dog body parameters will give clear idea about situation and severity of disease prognosis.
- Sign and symptoms of discomfort, anorectic, nervous sign etc.
- By laboratory tests such as a complete blood count, biochemistry profile, and urinalysis -- are also used to confirm infection and indicate status of animal.
- In DLC, abnormally low number of white blood cells (leukopenia), low neutrophils, and low lymphocytes (lymphopenia) in the complete blood count report are indicative of this infection
- And if treatment given in proper time than during time of recovery, the complete blood count may reveal an increased number of white blood cells, an indication of the increased activity of the infection fighting white blood cells showing positive response and better prognosis.
- In biochemistry profile LFT usually reveals abnormally high levels liver enzymes i.e. ALT (alanine aminotransferase) and AST (aspartate aminotransferase).
- Serological tests will also help in determining the levels of antibodies IgM and IgG produced during infection. Level of antibodies production indicates host active defence mechanism and shows the infection. The polymerase chain reaction test is also a reliable test for verifying the presence of *Toxoplasma gondii* in samples.

### Treatment

- ❖ Symptomatic treatment should be given to reduce the severity of disease symptoms and only in case of severe deteriorated health condition of dog it need to be get hospitalized for emergency treatment.
- ❖ It is more common in dogs with suppressed immune systems.
- ❖ Antibiotic that is effective drug of choice against toxoplasmosis is clindamycin which has good oral absorption and dosage of oral and parenteral route is similar @25mg / kg b.wt. / OD.
- ❖ Clinical sign will begin to resolve within 24-48hr after treatment indicating correct diagnosis and treatment.
- ❖ Fluids therapy can be given i.e. intravenously administration of fluid to dogs with poor hydration to rehydrate and to give energy as animal turns offed.
- ❖ Supportive therapy will help to reduce effect and lead to faster recovery.

### Prevention

- ❖ While cats are the best-known transmitters for the *Toxoplasma gondii* parasite and act as definitive host restricted movement of pets, maintaining safe distance.
- ❖ Keeping pregnant women distant from cats and its faeces.
- ❖ Oral route of transmission is common mode and the parasite is more frequently acquired through handling raw meat by dogs which contain infective stages and make dog infective and in human also eating unwashed fruits and vegetables, meat causes disease biosecurity measure with hygiene management is important.
- ❖ Do not feed raw meat to your dog, and do not allow your dog to have access to cat feces.
- ❖ Meat should be irradiated with x-ray and freezing can be done to kill oocyst present in meat without harming the meat quality it is adapted as a measure in area having increase number of toxoplasmosis cases.

### Other protective measures

- ❖ For pregnant women's wearing gloves while gardening, washing hands after playing outside (particularly with children), wearing disposable gloves while changing litter boxes (and possibly a face mask as well, if pregnant or immune compromised), and keeping the litter box clean on a daily basis to reduce disease spread in susceptible population.
- ❖ The longer the infected feces remain in the litter box, the more likely the possibility that the eggs of the parasite will become viable and infectious.
- ❖ If at all possible, pregnant women should avoid cleaning litter boxes, as this parasite has been known to cause severe complications during pregnancy.
- ❖ Dogs are not regarded as a threat for transmission of this parasite but close contact with cat's animal make them prone for infection so regular checkup for this parasite is essential and proper care management, hygiene, isolation of affected animal gives better control of disease transmission.
- ❖ In proper time treatment and careful precautions can reduce risk in animal as well as human population and reduces incidence of disease in susceptible population.
- ❖ Early diseases diagnosis and early precautionary measure in know infected areas of outbreak causes better management and minimal spread of disease.
- ❖ Human should also beware while handling pet as many diseases of zoonotic importance causes outbreak in human populations. Biosecurity measure and hygiene can reduce the risk in animal as well as humans...

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**S. Ramesh Bhumaiyya<sup>4</sup> and N. D. Hirani<sup>5</sup>**

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# The Questions Every Pet Parent Googles at 3 A.M

Dr Umesh Kallahali, Small Animal Consultant, Mars Petcare



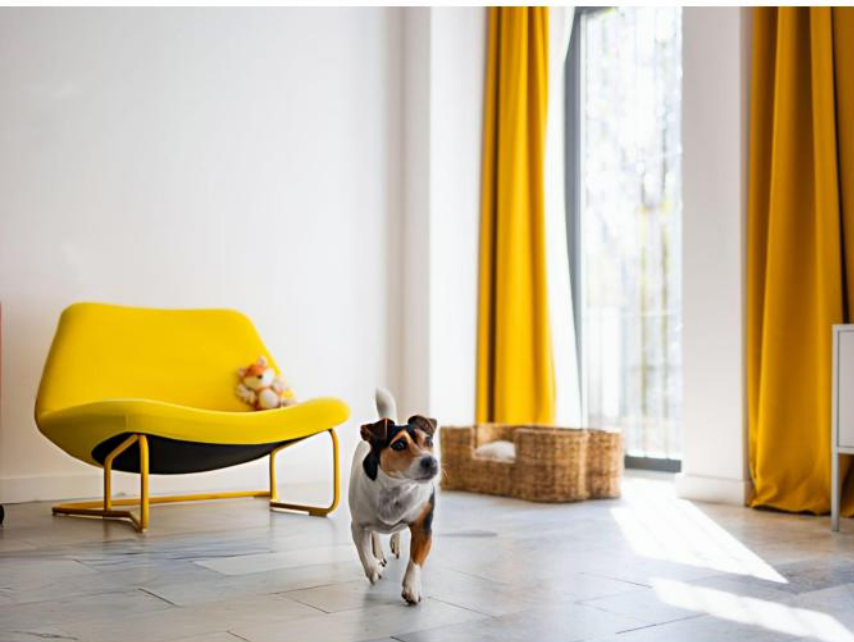
Most often, it starts with something small such as a weird noise, a peculiar behavior, or a behavior you have never witnessed before from your pet. The next thing you know, while fully awake, you are sitting there glued to your phone, typing in the question, “Is this normal for my pet?” While every pet owner is no doubt familiar with this sense of love, concern, and underlying puzzlement when your pet does something surprising, the truth is that a great number of these situations are absolutely normal. Here are some common questions of interest to pet owners, what they generally mean, and what they should do:

## Why is my pet spinning in circles before bed?

Circling before going to sleep is natural behavior for both canine and feline pets. This behavior can be attributed to their ancestors,

who used to circle in order to flatten the grass and check their surroundings before settling in safely for sleep. With human beings now, it is possible to have pets exhibiting their natural behavior even in the house. However, if their behavior of circling manifests itself in an abnormal manner, it becomes unsafe, and it would be wise to visit the doctor.

**Why is my pet suddenly running like a maniac at midnight** Wild running, or “zoomies,” is usually a burst of stored energy and a sign of excitement or stress release, especially in young pets after long naps or inactivity. Regular exercise, playtime, and mental stimulation during the day can help reduce nighttime chaos. However, if the running appears frantic, disoriented, or fearful, consult your veterinarian for proper evaluation.





**Why is my pet staring at nothing... Are they seeing something I can't?** Your pet's sense of hearing and motion detection is much better than yours, which allows them to react to faint sounds, little insects, or faraway movement that you might not notice. There could be nothing wrong when your pet stares into space, but if your pet stares into space and has any confusion, imbalance, tremors, or other unusual behaviour, it could indicate something that has to do with the nervous system, and they should be evaluated.

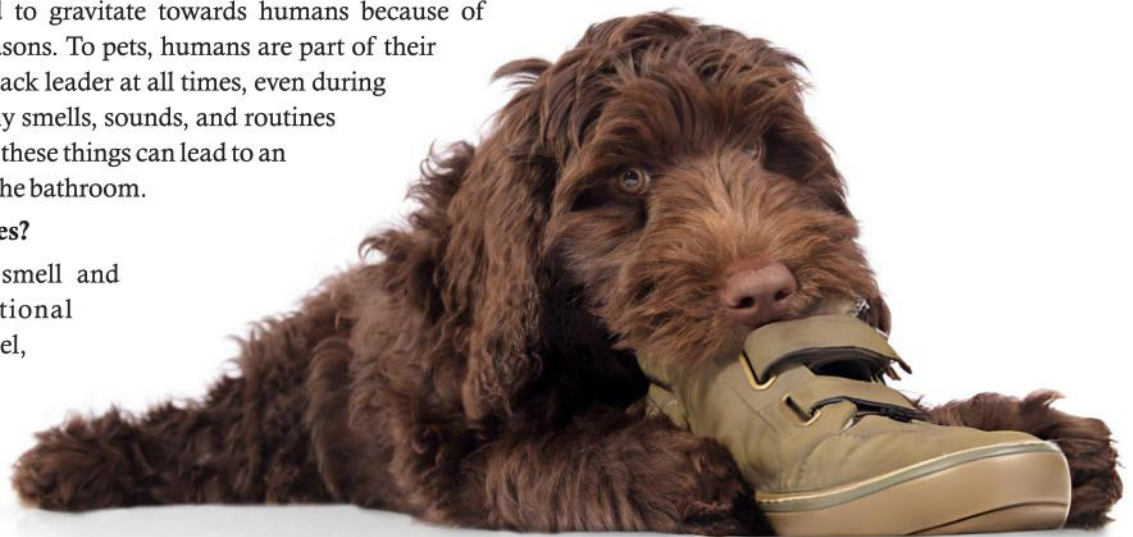
#### **Why does my pet follow me to the bathroom every single time?**

Animals, both cats and dogs, tend to gravitate towards humans because of attachment, curiosity, and safety reasons. To pets, humans are part of their pack, so they want to be with their pack leader at all times, even during times of privacy. There are also many smells, sounds, and routines in the bathroom, and curiosity about these things can lead to an eventual habit of following you into the bathroom.

#### **Why is my pet obsessed with my shoes?**

Your footwear has the strongest smell and therefore helps create an emotional connection because of this. The feel, shape and smell of the shoe could spark some sort of curiosity, willingness to play or light chewing, especially when they are young. Most of the time, this is harmless. It's just one small reflection of the love that your pet has for you. However, if you notice frequent chewing or destruction of the shoe, this may mean your pet is exhibiting signs of boredom, teething, or anxiety, which can be managed by providing chewing toys, enrichment activities, and providing enough opportunities to physically and mentally stimulate your pet.

While many 3 a.m. worries are harmless, warning signs like continuous vomiting, breathing trouble, refusal to eat or drink, sudden lethargy, collapse, or major behaviour changes should never be ignored. When in doubt, trust your instincts and seek help early. Late-night Googling comes from love — understanding your pet's normal behaviour and early signs can turn panic into calm, confident pet parenting, and help you both sleep better...



**MARS**  
Petcare

# Pawdrip, India's Leading pet lifestyle brand, welcomes consumer brand expert Rajat Khullar to its Advisory Board

*Strengthening India's premium pet lifestyle ecosystem through design, culture, and innovation.*



Pawdrip, India's first lifestyle-led pet fashion brand, has welcomed **Rajat Khullar**, former Chief Business Officer at Bella Vita Organic and current Founder of Bla Bli Blu, to its Advisory Board. With over two decades of experience in building, scaling, and positioning premium consumer brands, Rajat will support Pawdrip in accelerating its D2C vision, expanding retail presence, strengthening brand strategy, and shaping its leadership within India's fast-growing pet market.

"We're thrilled to have Rajat join us at this exciting phase of growth," said **Vaibhav Jha, Founder & CEO, Pawdrip**. "His proven expertise in building category-defining brands and navigating high-growth consumer markets will be invaluable as we expand our footprint and elevate the pet fashion experience in India. Pawdrip's ambition is to push the boundaries of how pet lifestyle brands are perceived, and Rajat's strategic direction will help accelerate that journey."

Commenting on his association, **Rajat Khullar, Advisory Board Member, Pawdrip**, said, "Pawdrip sits at the intersection of style, culture, and pet parenting - an area with immense untapped potential in India. I am excited to support the brand in creating a distinct identity, scaling meaningful retail, and setting new benchmarks in how pets and their parents experience lifestyle. Pawdrip has the right vision, and I look forward to contributing to its next chapter of growth. Its design philosophy, cultural relevance, and community-driven approach make it one of the most exciting homegrown brands in the pet ecosystem."





In another recent development, Avval Yadav has joined Pawdrip as its Co-Founder & Chief Business Officer, strengthening the brand's vision to shape India's modern pet lifestyle culture. "I joined Pawdrip because we're building a culture, not just a brand. We're shaping how modern India experiences pet lifestyle. With a shared vision and relentless drive, we're ready to take Pawdrip to new heights and build something truly transformative for pet parents across the country" he said.

Founded in 2022, Pawdrip is redefining how pets are celebrated in India. Positioned as a Gen Z-driven, design-first brand, it has disrupted a largely unorganised pet accessories market by introducing fashion-forward pieces that reflect the personality and style of modern pet parents. From bold, playful, Gen Z-inspired collars to design-led accessories, Pawdrip's collections have quickly become favourites among metro-based pet families.

At the heart of the brand lies its signature pet fragrances - India's first category-defining line of perfumes designed exclusively for pets. Each fragrance is named in honour of a dog who lost their lives while serving in the Indian Army, creating a powerful tribute

that carries forward their legacy of love, courage, and loyalty.

Pawdrip's advisory strength is further supported by **Gaurav Gupta, Founder of Gurukul**, who serves as a strategic advisor to the brand. "India is entering an era where pet care isn't just a category - it's a culture. For the next generation of parents, a pet-first lifestyle will define how families live, travel, shop, and express themselves. At Pawdrip, we're shaping a future where pets are not only companions, but an essential part of a modern, mindful way of living."

The brand has also built a strong and engaged community through a series of on-ground events, with participation from over 10,000 pet parents. In December 2025, Pawdrip hosted India's first-ever IIFA-inspired awards for pets - The Grand Pet Gala, featuring a couture-led pet fashion show and a full red-carpet experience. With over 6,000 attendees, 70% of whom were pet parents, the event reinforced Pawdrip's strong connect with the pet-loving community and demonstrated its capability to deliver large-scale, high-impact experiential events in the pet lifestyle space.

Further strengthening its culture-first approach, Pawdrip recently launched its Pawlentine's Campaign, a celebration dedicated to the bond between pets and their parents. Inspired by contemporary celebration formats such as Valentine's and Galentine's, the campaign places pet-parent relationships at the heart of the occasion. Alongside this, the brand introduced a limited-edition Pawlentine Gift Set, underscoring its commitment to premium, purpose-led offerings.

With India's pet care market valued at USD 10.2 billion and projected to reach USD 16.2 billion by 2030, Pawdrip sees a significant opportunity to lead in the premium pet lifestyle space. With Rajat's advisory support, the brand is gearing up for rapid digital, experiential, and retail growth in 2026-27. Pawdrip has already expanded to 40+ multi-brand retail stores across Delhi NCR, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Rajasthan.

The brand has also been recognised among the top 13% of participants in the WTFund cohort led by Nikhil Kamath and ranked in the top 30% of startups in the TiE Rajasthan cohort. Pawdrip also showcased its collection at the Jaipur Literature Festival, where products sold out within two days.

#### About Pawdrip

Founded in 2022, Pawdrip is India's first lifestyle-led pet fashion brand, offering a curated range of luxury pet jewellery, design-first collars, innovative accessories, and India's first signature collection of pet perfumes. Built on a Gen Z-driven design philosophy, the brand focuses on style, cultural relevance, and self-expression for modern pet parents. Pawdrip's products are available across 40+ multi-brand retail stores in Delhi NCR, Maharashtra, Punjab, and Rajasthan, as well as online through its official website and partner platforms. With a growing community and a strong retail footprint, Pawdrip is shaping the future of premium pet lifestyle in India...



# Smarter Stores, Stronger Communities

## The AI Revolution in Pet Retail

Artificial intelligence is transforming independent pet retail operations by streamlining processes and enhancing business efficiency. AI is now widely integrated into retail systems, supporting functions such as reporting, ordering, discount code generation, and inventory management. This technology is no longer a future prospect but a present reality embedded in nearly every software platform used by retailers.

One of the most significant advancements AI brings is the ability to generate purchase orders in seconds rather than hours. By analyzing sales data and applying specific parameters, AI can create complex orders tailored to retailers' needs, including seasonal adjustments such as excluding holiday items until the appropriate time. This capability allows retailers to plan inventory for extended periods with precision and ease.

Unlike past technology rollouts that required extensive education, today's retailers are proactively seeking AI integration, already aware of its capabilities. This rapid adoption surpasses even the shift from local systems to cloud computing, highlighting AI's growing importance in retail.

Inventory management remains the most time-consuming task for retailers, encompassing product editing, purchase order creation, order receipt, and inventory report review. AI alleviates this burden by automating many of these

administrative duties, enabling retailers to focus more on customer engagement and community involvement.

AI also provides competitive intelligence by analyzing competitor pricing and recommending discount strategies based on market conditions. This insight helps retailers optimize pricing to improve sales performance effectively.

Community engagement is a critical success factor for independent retailers. The most successful stores are those deeply connected to their communities through partnerships, local events, and customer relationships. AI supports this by freeing up time retailers would otherwise spend on administrative tasks, allowing them to invest more in these valuable interactions.

Furthermore, AI levels the playing field between small- to medium-sized retailers and large chains. While big retailers often have dedicated analytics teams, AI tools offer similar insights and actionable recommendations to smaller retailers, helping them compete more effectively.

Looking ahead, AI is expected to become an essential feature in retail software within the next decade. Retailers who adopt AI early will gain a competitive advantage, while those who delay risk falling behind as this technology becomes standard in the industry...



# Royal Canin Advances Veterinary Nutrition Standards with Paediatric Program at the International Veterinary Conference & Expo, Mumbai



*Emphasising its Paediatric Program, Royal Canin reinforced its commitment to empowering veterinarians across India with science-backed early-life care protocols for puppies and kittens.*

Royal Canin, a pioneer in the 'Health through Nutrition' concept for cats and dogs, took centre stage at the International Veterinary Conference & Expo, Mumbai (IVCEM 2026), reinforcing its leadership in veterinary nutrition education. The brand's participation at the two-day conference, held on the 10th and 11th of January 2026 at the CIDCO Convention Centre, Navi, Mumbai, marked a significant milestone in elevating paediatric care standards across India's veterinary community.

Organised by the Veterinary Practitioners' Welfare Association (VPWA), the conference, which had a mix of lectures and practical sessions, saw approximately 200 veterinarians come together to enhance their clinical expertise. Royal Canin leveraged this platform to unveil its comprehensive Paediatric Program for veterinarians and New Product Launches (NPLs) setting benchmarks in early-life nutrition for puppies and kittens.

Royal Canin showcased how the Paediatric Program addresses the critical developmental phases from birth through the first year of life. The initiative equips veterinary practitioners with evidence-based nutritional protocols designed to support optimal growth, immune system development, and long-term health outcomes. The program reflects Royal Canin's decades of research into age-specific nutritional requirements and its commitment to preventive healthcare.

The New Veterinary Diets launched are targeted nutritional solutions addressing prevalent health concerns in dogs and cats across life stages. The GI (Gastrointestinal) Puppy & Kitten range provides specialised digestive support during the critical early months when young animals are particularly vulnerable to gastrointestinal sensitivities. The Neutered Small Dog formula addresses the unique metabolic needs of neutered small-breed dogs, helping maintain ideal body condition and supporting urinary health. The Early Renal solution offers proactive nutritional management for early-stage kidney concerns, enabling veterinarians to intervene with precision nutrition before clinical symptoms escalate. Together, these products reflect Royal Canin's commitment to providing veterinarians with science-based nutritional tools for common health challenges in both young and adult pets.

The conference featured an intensive agenda spanning multiple veterinary disciplines. Day 01 offered hands-on workshops in Dermatology, Ophthalmology, Exotic Animal Care, Cytology, and Bovine Reproduction, while Day 2 delivered expert-led sessions on Pet nutrition, Anaesthesia management, Canine reproduction, Haematology, and Clinical decision-making.

Commenting on the event, **Dr Vishal Dangle, Scientific Communication Manager**, said, "Nutrition in the first year of life determines health trajectories for the next decade. Royal Canin is shifting the paradigm from reactive treatment to proactive nutritional intervention. IVCEM 2026 provided the ideal platform to engage with some of the best veterinarians from across India and showcase our Paediatric Program, which gives veterinarians the scientific tools to prevent health issues before they manifest, ensuring every young animal has the nutritional foundation for a thriving life."

Royal Canin's investment in veterinary education extends beyond product offerings. By partnering with leading veterinary associations and practitioners, the brand is building a knowledge ecosystem that elevates care standards nationwide.

The conference concluded with the Kartrutva Gaurav 2026 awards ceremony, celebrating excellence in veterinary practice, followed by a gala dinner that fostered professional networking and collaboration...





## Kindness Can Kill Human Foods Unsafe for Dogs and Cats

*When love is served on a plate,  
it doesn't always nourish.*

Akanksha\*, V.K Singh, Dharmesh Tewari,  
Sachin Gautam, Shrey Gautam, Manish Kumar Singh,  
Shubham Tripathi, Akash Pawar

### Introduction: Love, Shared in the Wrong Way

Almost every pet owner knows this moment.

You're eating. A pair of hopeful eyes looks up at you. A tail taps the floor. A soft paw rests gently on your knee. Or a cat weaves between your legs, purring like a small engine. Instinctively, you want to share. Food is how humans show affection. We celebrate with it. We comfort ourselves with it. We offer it to guests. So why not to the animals we love most?

Because, tragically, some of the foods we enjoy can seriously injure—or even kill—they.

Veterinary clinics are full of stories that begin the same way:

“I only gave him a little.”

“She just licked the plate.”

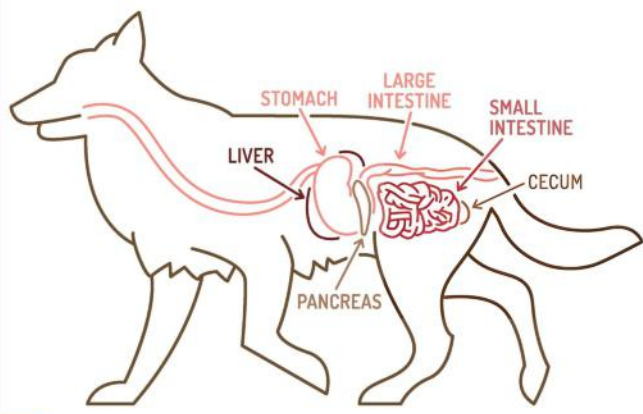
“It was just one bite.”

What follows is often vomiting, seizures, organ failure, emergency hospital visits—and sometimes, heartbreak.

Dogs and cats are not small humans. Their bodies work differently. What is harmless, or even healthy, for us may overwhelm their organs, poison their blood, or disrupt their nervous system. When we share food without understanding the risk, kindness quietly turns into danger.

This article is not about fear. It is about awareness. Because informed love saves lives.

### DOG DIGESTIVE SYSTEM



### Why Pets Can't Eat Like We Do

Dogs evolved as scavengers, capable of digesting a wide range of foods. Cats evolved as hunters, built to survive on meat alone. Neither species evolved alongside chocolate cake, spicy curries, sweetened gum, fried snacks, or caffeinated drinks.

Inside their bodies, the enzymes that help humans break down certain chemicals are missing or weak. Substances we flush out easily can stay in a pet's system for days, slowly damaging vital organs. Some foods attack red blood cells. Others overstimulate the heart and brain. Some shut down the liver or kidneys without much warning.

The danger is not always immediate. A pet may seem fine in the morning and collapse by night. By the time symptoms appear, the damage may already be severe.

### **Chocolate Isn't Sweet to the Canine Heart**

Chocolate is one of the most common causes of pet poisoning—and one of the most preventable.

Chocolate contains **theobromine** and **caffeine**, natural stimulants. Humans process these quickly. Dogs and cats cannot. In their bodies, these compounds build up and continue to affect the brain and heart.



The results can include:

- 🐾 Restlessness and anxiety
- 🐾 Vomiting and diarrhoea
- 🐾 Rapid or irregular heartbeat
- 🐾 Muscle tremors
- 🐾 Seizures
- 🐾 Sudden collapse

Dark chocolate and cocoa powder are especially dangerous. Baking chocolate, often used in homes, is extremely toxic. Even small amounts can trigger life-threatening reactions, particularly in small dogs.

Chocolate is not a treat for pets. It is a medical emergency.

### **The Invisible Threat in Sugar-Free Foods**

Many people are shocked to learn that “sugar-free” does not mean “safe.”

Xylitol, a common sugar substitute found in chewing gum, candies, toothpaste, baked goods, and even some peanut butters, is deadly to dogs.

In humans, xylitol passes through with little effect. In dogs, it causes the pancreas to release a sudden flood of insulin. Blood sugar levels crash dangerously low within minutes.

Dogs exposed to xylitol may show:

- 🐾 Sudden weakness
- 🐾 Staggering or collapse
- 🐾 Vomiting
- 🐾 Tremors or seizures
- 🐾 Loss of consciousness



Even more frightening, xylitol can also destroy liver tissue, sometimes without early warning signs. A dog may survive the first few hours and then slip into liver failure days later.

Cats are less likely to consume sweet foods, but any exposure should be treated as serious.

### **Onions and Garlic: Slow Poisons in the Kitchen**

Onions and garlic are found in nearly every household meal. They are also quietly toxic.

All members of the onion family—onions, garlic, leeks, chives, shallots—damage red blood cells in dogs and cats. This leads to anaemia, reducing the blood's ability to carry oxygen.

What makes these foods especially dangerous is their subtlety. Pets may not fall ill immediately. Instead, symptoms may appear days later:

- 🐾 Pale gums
- 🐾 Extreme tiredness
- 🐾 Rapid breathing
- 🐾 Dark urine
- 🐾 Weakness or collapse

Whether raw, cooked, powdered, or mixed into sauces, these foods remain toxic. Cats are particularly sensitive. Even a small amount can be devastating.

### **Grapes and Raisins: Small Fruits, Massive Risk**

Few foods puzzle veterinarians more than grapes and raisins.

Some dogs eat them and seem fine. Others develop sudden kidney failure after only a few pieces. Scientists still do not know exactly which compound causes the toxicity. What they do know is the result can be fatal.

Warning signs include:

- 🐾 Repeated vomiting
- 🐾 Abdominal pain
- 🐾 Excessive thirst
- 🐾 Little or no urine production
- 🐾 Lethargy

Once the kidneys are damaged, treatment becomes complex and survival uncertain. Because there is no safe amount, grapes and raisins should never be offered—directly or hidden in sweets, cakes, or breakfast foods.

### **Alcohol and Dough: Trouble That Rises Fast**

Alcohol affects pets far more powerfully than it affects us.

A small amount of beer, wine, liquor, or fermented batter can depress the nervous system, slow breathing, and drop body temperature.

Pets exposed to alcohol may show:

- 🐾 Vomiting and diarrhoea
- 🐾 Disorientation
- 🐾 Breathing difficulty
- 🐾 Tremors
- 🐾 Seizures
- 🐾 Coma

Unbaked yeast dough brings a second danger. It can expand inside the stomach, causing painful bloating or even stomach twisting. At the same time, fermentation releases alcohol internally, poisoning the pet from within.

### Rich Foods, Weak Pancreases

Many emergencies follow celebrations.

Fried snacks. Creamy gravies. Fatty meat trimmings. Butter, ghee, sweets. These foods overwhelm the digestive system of pets and often trigger **pancreatitis**, a painful and potentially fatal inflammation of the pancreas.

Symptoms may include:

- 🐾 Continuous vomiting
- 🐾 Severe abdominal pain
- 🐾 Fever
- 🐾 Dehydration
- 🐾 Weakness and shock

Pancreatitis can become chronic, leading to lifelong digestive problems and diabetes. What begins as a “special treat” may turn into a permanent illness.

### Bones, Salt, and Spice: Daily Hazards

Cooked bones splinter easily. They can lodge in the throat, puncture intestines, or cause internal bleeding. Many pets die not from eating meat, but from the bones humans leave behind.

Spicy foods irritate the stomach and intestines. Chillies can cause drooling, breathing difficulty, and intense discomfort.



Salty snacks—chips, pickles, papad, processed foods—can cause sodium poisoning. This may lead to:

- 🐾 Extreme thirst
- 🐾 Tremors
- 🐾 High fever
- 🐾 Seizures
- 🐾 Brain swelling

Pets do not need added salt. What we find flavourful, their bodies experience as chemical stress.

### Other Common Dangers We Overlook

- 🐾 **Macadamia nuts** can cause weakness, vomiting, tremors, and overheating.
- 🐾 **Walnuts**, especially mouldy ones, may affect the nervous system.
- 🐾 **Milk and dairy products** often cause diarrhoea because most adult pets cannot digest lactose.
- 🐾 **Avocado** contains persin, which can upset the heart and digestive tract.
- 🐾 **Raw eggs and fish** may interfere with vitamin absorption and carry harmful bacteria.

Not every exposure is fatal—but every exposure is a gamble.

### When Medicine Hides in Food

Some owners hide tablets in food to give medicine. While this can be useful under veterinary guidance, it becomes extremely dangerous when human medicines are used.

Paracetamol, ibuprofen, and many cold remedies can destroy a cat's liver or a dog's stomach lining. Mixed into food, these drugs may be consumed accidentally by other pets or children.

Human medicine is not a kindness. It is poison to pets.

### Recognizing the First Signs

Food poisoning does not always begin dramatically. Early signs may include:



- 🐾 Drooling
- 🐾 Vomiting
- 🐾 Diarrhoea
- 🐾 Unusual tiredness
- 🐾 Loss of appetite

As toxicity worsens, pets may show:

- 🐾 Tremors or seizures
- 🐾 Pale gums or yellowing of eyes
- 🐾 Difficulty breathing
- 🐾 Collapse

Any sudden illness after possible access to human food should be treated as urgent.

### What To Do If a Pet Eats Something Harmful

- 🐾 Stay calm—but act quickly.
- 🐾 Remove access to the food.
- 🐾 Do not force vomiting unless a veterinarian tells you to.
- 🐾 Contact a veterinary clinic immediately.
- 🐾 Take the packaging or food sample if possible.

Minutes matter. Early treatment saves lives.

### Prevention Is the Truest Form of Love

- 🐾 Educate family members and visitors.
- 🐾 Keep toxic foods locked away.
- 🐾 Do not feed from the table.
- 🐾 Dispose of leftovers safely.
- 🐾 Choose pet-specific treats.
- 🐾 During festivals and gatherings, assign someone to watch both food and pets.

Pets do not need our snacks. They need our protection.

### Conclusion: Loving Them Means Knowing Better

Our pets trust us without question. They cannot tell chocolate from medicine, grapes from toys, sweets from safety. Every bite we offer is taken in faith.

Real kindness is not sharing what we enjoy. It is choosing what keeps them alive, healthy, and by our side for years to come.

Sometimes, the most powerful expression of love is not what we give—but what we refuse to give.

Because in the world of pets, kindness guided by knowledge doesn't just show affection.

**It saves lives...**



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## TOP SIGNS YOUR DOG IS STRESSED OR ANXIOUS

**Dr. Akanksha Diwaker**  
Head - Marketing  
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**6. Shaking, Trembling or Freezing in Place**  
Not always cold; often emotional stress or fear of the environment.

**7. Whining, Barking or Growling Sudden Triggers**  
Vocal output is a final stage; body language appears first.

**Emotional Triggers That Cause Anxiety**  
Dogs may feel stressed because of:

- Loud noises (thunder, fireworks)
- New environment or unfamiliar people
- Change in routine or separation from owner
- Fearful or negative conditioning
- Overstimulated play during unplayable
- Health or digestive disorder

Sometimes anxiety starts during playful interactions too.

**How to Calm a Stressed or Anxious Dog**

1. **Give Space and Reduce Stimulation**  
Don't force touch or interaction. Let your dog come to you on their terms.
2. **Soft Voice + Gentle Presence**  
Calm energy lowers stress faster than commands or restraint.
3. **Create Safe Zones at Home**  
A quiet bed corner, soft blanket, favourite toy; emotional safety matters.

**4. Use Slow Petting Instead of Excitement**  
Loose, gentle strokes reassure better than fast playful petting.

**5. Practice Confidence-Building Activities**  
Short walks, sniff time, puzzle toys, structured play.

**6. Support Emotional Balance Through Diet**  
Dogs with unstable energy may react quicker to stress. Providing selected nutrients like Bowler's Dog Food supports:

- **Steady energy release**
- **Stress regulation** → calmer mood
- **Improved cognitive response**
- **Reduced irritability and hyper reactivity**

A well-filled stomach nurtures a well-regulated nervous system.

**Natural Remedies to Ease Anxiety**

- **Calmix chews or mats**
- **Lavender diffusers (pet-safe usage only)**
- **Massaging ears and shoulders**
- **Longer sniffs/melts instead of fast walks**
- **Background calming music**
- **Slow feeding bowls for mealtime relaxation**

Consistency beats intensity: small daily habits build emotional stability for life.


**NATURAL LEARNING PATH**

Understanding stress becomes easier when you connect all communication cues:

Topic	Why It Helps
1. Tail Signals	Anxiety shows clearly through tail height and speed
2. Eye Contact Cues	Stress often begins with gaze avoidance
3. Head Tilt Meaning	Tilt + hesitation sometimes signals uncertainty
4. Play vs Aggression	Stress can escalate into misinterpreted aggression

All five Sections together form the complete language of dogs.

1. **Can stress make dogs aggressive?**  
Yes: fear often triggers defensive reactions. Learn early cues (tail + eyes) to prevent escalation.
2. **Why does my dog get anxious suddenly?**  
Changes in environment, loud sound, new pet/people, or internal discomfort can trigger instant stress.
3. **How long does stress last in dogs?**  
Minutes to days depending on the trigger. Comfort, routine, and secure environment reduce duration.
4. **Can food affect anxiety?**  
Absolutely. A stable, balanced diet like Dog Food helps regulate energy spikes and improves behavioural temperament.
5. **Should I hug a stressed dog?**  
Not always. Some dogs want closeness, others need space. Observe body cues first...



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