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Fluids and energy.

With **any sick dog or pup** – the most important starting point is to maintain dehydration with fluids and energy.

If your dog is suffering from a sudden onset of diarrhea and or dehydration, try to make lifestyle arrangements that will allow you to live with the situation (on hand monitoring) for a day or two, until it passes.

It is always better to see your vet if you can and the Vet will further advice or treat the sick dog.

Dehydration and resulting puking and diarrhea is often a symptom of various serious diseases and your dog's life might depend on your vet's immediate intervention.

Puppies / adult dogs that are under stress of any disease especially with relating dehydration and losing body weight, **have a much better chance of recovery if they are immediately given fluids to prevent acute dehydration.**

For a sick dog it is best to give fluids warmed to normal body heat. This best indication will be by adding clean distilled, warm water to the mixture until drops of the actual fluid you need to give do not feel cold or hot – test the heat of the fluid on the bare skin on the underside of your wrist.

Important that the sugar solution in water is needed to provide energy/nutrition and fluids to counter dehydration.

Commercial purchased electrolyte formula.

Add **5ml** of "Recharge / or other similar electrolyte solution/product" to **100ml** (about half a cupful) of water (boiled and cooled down water – cooled to blood or body heat).

Add 5g (one teaspoonful) of **glucose powder** into the 100ml of made up Recharge.

Stir well & ensure (the heat of the formula) it is at blood temperature before giving.

This energy and electrolyte solution can be given with a small nursing bottle and teat to puppies that can still suckle, or with an eye dropper or syringe to puppies that are too weak, best that you carefully pick up the puppy by wrapping it in a small towel and gently hold it with its head upright when giving it the rehydration mixture. After the puppy has been given the mixture, it will normally want to sleep.

Place it back gently in a warm place, still wrapped in the towel, with its head out.

Dosage.

As a guide APBT puppies up to 10 weeks old should be given about 15ml of the mixture every 2 hours until they drink themselves from an offered water bowl.

It is important to consult your vet immediately, if a puppy develops diarrhea or becomes dehydrated and or less active, losing weight or display white/pale gums.

This despite your expert nursing care – **see the Vet or you might lose the dog.**

About making your own (DIY) Electrolyte.

A suggestion to make your own home make unflavored electrolyte / Pediatyte solution for digestive upset or diarrhea, gastroenteritis, vomiting and resulting dehydration.

1 liter pre boiled and cooled filter water or natural spring water.

1 teaspoon ordinary house salt or Himalayan salt or Celtic salt.

1 tablespoon pure organic honey or glucose **or** 7 teaspoons sugar – never use xylitol

(Please do not freak out about the sugars because they're necessary if the dog / pup isn't getting other nutrition or keeping down food).

Mix the salt and sugar into the Luke warm water until dissolved.

Optional:

1/2 teaspoon baking soda (bicarb)

Add a pinch of vitamin C

A pinch of Zinc

A pinch of Potassium (remembering that table salt also contain potassium).

After the first +- 3 hours of puking ... offer some of your home made electrolyte in a clean water bowl as the only drinking water for the sick dog and leave it close to you sick dog and freely available at all time – monitor if the dog/pup will drink by itself –

This water supply electrolyte solution needs to be replaced 2 – 3 time a day and then in a pre-washed water bowl.

Cleaning the keeping area and soiled bedding twice a day - mix 1 cup swimming pool chloride or 1 L household bleach into a 5L water as disinfectant solution to wash the contaminated area – first remove all urine, puke and faeces.

Force feed.

If needed force feed this homemade electrolyte with a syringe ... 15 ml every hour until dog drink out of free will.

Also suggested to add a good commercial prebiotic dissolve in the same mix – 4 teaspoons to the 1 L of water.

Refrigerate your homemade electrolyte left overs and use it up to 3 days - make a fresh batch after every 3 days or when needed if depleted.

Note! >> Don't even think having the sick pup/dog drink anything until they haven't vomited for 2 – 3 hours.

After that you can start with the home made electrolyte liquid in small sips or with syringe if needed in the mouth.

If the sick dog keep that down for 20 minutes, then they're likely ready to start drinking more of the homemade electrolyte offered in the drinking bowl.

You homemade treatment will restores electrolytes from sodium chloride (salt) and their minerals that are lost during vomiting or diarrhea.

Electrolytes help the cells absorb and retain fluid, so drinking a beverage that helps replace those electrolytes will rehydrate the body faster than drinking water alone.

The sugar is there for a reason.

It is an osmolyte {Osmolytes are compounds affecting osmosis.

They are soluble in the solution within a cell, or in the surrounding fluid, e.g. as plasma osmolytes}.

Therefore important to play a role in maintaining cell volume and fluid balance, which allows the body to move the electrolytes (potassium, sodium and chloride) across the cell membrane. What's more, is that "Gatorade" uses dextrose (pure glucose) for part of the sugar, meaning that it is absorbed immediately, high in the GI tract, so it doesn't wind up drawing water into the bowel as sucrose can.

Bland diet.

Once the sick dog is holding down water and drinking by itself you can start feeding a bland diet.

Some use cooked rice (suggested you use mashed pumpkin & sweet potato) with cooked chicken ... deboned and with no skin and fat ... for 5 days.

{See other diarrhea articles on this website}

Diarrhea.

* For diarrhea I give "Gastropect suspension" or "Bismuth Subsalicylate (Pepto Bismol)" as directed together with homemade electrolyte.

* Immediacy start giving a probiotic solution - just about all diarrhea leads to dehydration and involves an imbalance in your dog's intestinal flora.