



## HOLIDAY HAZARDS

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The holidays are a festive time for us and our pets. However, due to ongoing activities and constant distractions, we can easily overlook potential dangers to our four-legged family members. The last thing you want to do on a holiday is take your pet to an emergency hospital with an injury, poisoning or even an upset stomach. Here is a list of common objects, foods and decorations that pose a threat to your pets during the holiday season.



**-Table scraps:** Fatty foods, like meat trimmings, poultry skin and gravy can cause severe upset stomachs and even pancreatitis.

**-Bones:** Even well cooked bones are hollow and break and splinter easily. The results are sharp pieces that can choke the dog or block/tear the intestines. A pet that has a bone or fragment of one lodged in his intestine may not even show symptoms for a few days. When they do occur they may include loss of appetite, depression, vomiting, or diarrhea.

**-Chocolate:** In general, the darker and richer

the chocolate (i.e., baker's chocolate), the higher the risk of toxicity. Depending on the type and amount of chocolate ingested, dogs might experience vomiting, diarrhea, urination, hyperactivity, heart arrhythmias, tremors and seizures.

**-Holiday foods:** Other foods to avoid include raisins, grapes, nuts, mushrooms, garlic, onions, coffee, tea, alcohol, and sugar free candy/gum which contains xylitol.

**-Decorative plants:** Holly, mistletoe and poinsettia can be toxic to pets.

**-Decorations:** Holiday lights, ribbons, tinsel, and ornaments all pose a threat to pets if ingested.

This list is by no means all-inclusive, but hopefully it will help you make your home a safer place during the holidays. If you have any concerns, please contact us and/or an animal poison control hotline immediately.

### NEAREST 24-HOUR HOSPITALS

Sonora  
(40th/Cactus)  
602-765-3700

VetMed  
(101/Cave Creek)  
602-697-4694

EAC  
(Scottsdale/  
Pinnacle Peak)  
602-949-8001



## **ZEUTERIN: A NON-SURGICAL ALTERNATIVE TO NEUTERING**

After extensive research and training, Dr. Ingram is one of a small group of veterinarians now offering Zeuterin™, an alternative for neutering male dogs.

Zeuterin™ is a non-invasive and non-surgical sterilization technique that uses the medicine zinc gluconate neutralized with L-arginine injected directly into a dog's testicles to prevent sperm production, thus sterilizing the dog and preventing them from fathering puppies. It is the first form of non-invasive and non-surgical sterilization approved by the U.S. Food and Drug Administration (FDA) for use in dogs.

The sterilization procedure effectively shuts down sperm production within 1 to 3 days. However, sperm in the vas deferens and possibly the epididymis can reside for up to 30 days. Hence, a sexually mature Zeuterin™ sterilized dog could potentially impregnate a female up to 30 days post injection. Note that vasectomies and surgical castrations can leave some sperm in the vas deferens remnants for up to 21 days.

### **FAQ: ZEUTERIN**

#### **Is anesthesia/sedation used with the procedure?**

One of the benefits of this procedure, is that full anesthesia is not required. However, an injectable sedative will be used for the comfort of the patient.

#### **What are the age requirements for the procedure?**

Currently, the male dog must be between the ages of 3 and 10 months. It is expected to be approved for male dogs of all ages very soon.

#### **Can this be done at a regular appointment?**

A Zeuterin procedure will be scheduled the same as a surgery. Drop off will be required at 7am and then picked up later that same day.

#### **What are the charges for this procedure?**

The price for this new procedure is comparable to the price of a neuter. You will also have the opportunity to do pre-op blood work as well as a microchip while the pet is sedated. An estimate for the procedure will be provided.

#### **Will medications be sent home?**

Dr. Ingram may choose to send the patient home with some pain medications for the comfort of the pet.

#### **How do you know if a dog has had Zeuterin?**

Since the testicles remain visible, once a pet is "Zeutered," a small "z" will be tattooed on the pet's inner thigh to signal to veterinarians, owners and shelter personnel that the dog has been sterilized.

#### **Are there any side effects or complications?**

There can be some swelling or irritation at the injection site, so the dog must be monitored to ensure that they do not lick/scratch the area.

#### **Does this procedure have any effect on behavior?**

As with surgical neutering, Zeuterin™ may or may not eliminate male behavior such as roaming, marking, aggression, or mounting in dogs. Anecdotal information collected from dog owners shows that Zeuterin™ does suppress mating behaviors, very much like with surgical neutering.

**For more information on this procedure, please visit [www.zeuterin.com](http://www.zeuterin.com)**

## FACEBOOK PHOTO CONTEST WINNERS



Thank you for all your submissions to our Fall Photo Contest on our Facebook page. We would like to congratulate our two photo winners. "Grade," owned by Mark Dyda, was the first place winner, receiving the most votes. A festive "Jesse," owned by Michelle Anaya was our "Staff Pick." Both winners received a \$50 gift certificate to be used at our clinic. Make sure you visit our Facebook page at [www.facebook.com/AllCreaturesClinic](http://www.facebook.com/AllCreaturesClinic) to see all the adorable submissions!



## CLINIC NOTES

### - Our holiday hours:

Tuesday, December 24: 7:30 – 12:00

Wednesday, December 25: CLOSED

Tuesday, December 31: 7:30 – 12:00

Wednesday, January 1: CLOSED

-We are proud to announce that our hospital won two prestigious awards: The *NVA President Gold Award* which is given for top performance, superb teamwork, delivering the highest quality medicine and great client service. Additionally, All Creatures was one of only 6 hospitals throughout the country to be awarded with the *Chairman's Award*, which is the highest form of recognition. Our doctors and staff continually strive to provide you and your pets with the most superb care possible.

-We do require 24 hour notice on all prescription refills. Please plan ahead for any medications needed over the holiday.

-Looking for a great holiday gift for a pet lover? Ask us about an *All Creatures Gift Certificate!*



**December 1 - December 31**

*Help us in helping the needy pets throughout the community, by donating pet food during the holiday season.*

**Bring in at least 5 cans or 1 bag of pet food and receive a \$10 credit on your account!\***

*\*Limit one \$10 credit per account*



CHRISTINE

BRITTANY

COURTNEY RAE

CARRIE

JENELL

COURTNEY C.

JESSICA Y.

JESSICA G.

CHARLOTTE

JENN

DENISE

DR. ROBERTS

DR. INGRAM

DR. BOB



**THE ALL CREATURES FAMILY WISHES  
YOU A WONDERFUL HOLIDAY SEASON  
AND A JOYOUS NEW YEAR!**