

EMERGENCIES

If your animal requires immediate veterinary attention, either due to an accident or a sudden deterioration in their health, it pays to be prepared and know what to do.

During opening hours

Call the surgery immediately for instant advice and to arrange an emergency appointment, then bring your animal along to the surgery as normal. There we have all the medicines and equipment that we need to treat your animal.

Outside opening hours

In an emergency, call the main surgery number and a recorded message will give you the telephone number on which to contact John or the vet on call. We can then arrange for you to come to the surgery, or John can visit your home.

Out-of-hours consultations are charged at £80 plus the cost of drugs. An additional visit fee will be added for consultations that take place at your home.

What if John is on holiday?

Call the surgery as usual to hear the telephone number of the duty vet. Either our regular locum vet will provide the emergency service at our Middleton Cheney surgery, or an arrangement will be in place for one of our colleagues at a neighbouring practice to look after you and your animal.

What is a veterinary emergency?

Seeing your animal injured or anxious is always distressing, so it's good to be familiar with the conditions that are potentially life-threatening and that require immediate veterinary attention.

Veterinary emergencies include:

- suspected poisoning
- road traffic accidents
- severe bloating or gastric dilation
- persistent diarrhoea or vomiting

In these circumstances, your animal needs to be seen immediately. Most other complaints, even if uncomfortable for the animal, are unlikely to be life-threatening, but should still be seen by a veterinary surgeon at the earliest opportunity.

Polite request

If you are unsure whether your animal requires immediate assistance, please don't hesitate to call us for advice whether your animal should be seen.

However, please use the emergency service responsibly. Calls for general health advice, to book appointments or for any other non-urgent enquiries should be restricted to opening hours only.