



Wheat Ridge  
Veterinary Specialists

Expertise You Can Trust.



emergency & critical care

internal medicine

surgery

dermatology

radiology, ultrasound & CT scan

# Trauma



Your pet has just been hit by a moving vehicle. Although injuries may not be apparent at this moment, it is very important for your pet to be monitored closely for the next 24 – 48 hours. Internal bleeding, severe bruising of or collapse of the lungs, ruptured urinary or gall bladder can be present, and can cause life-threatening illness if not recognized and treated promptly.

At Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital, your pet will be watched 24 hours a day by certified veterinary technicians and staff veterinarians. Your pet's EKG, blood pressure, and breathing will be closely monitored to make sure that ongoing problems do not develop. Our experienced veterinarian may recommend bloodwork to check the function of vital organs such as the liver and kidneys, and x-rays to make sure that internal injuries or broken bones are not present. When necessary, your pet will be placed on pain control medications, intravenous fluids, and antibiotics to treat pain and infection.

When your pet goes home, injuries that occurred at the time of the accident may not become apparent for days to weeks after the event. Your animal should be kept indoors, and allowed outside only on a leash for the next 7 days, or until your veterinarian says that restricted activity is no longer necessary. Excessive play, running, and jumping are not allowed, even if your pet looks completely normal.

Monitor your animal's gum and tongue color. Make sure that it stays nice and pink. Pale pink, purplish or gray discoloration to the gums or tongue can occur with anemia or breathing problems. Make sure that your animal is urinating and defecating normally. Monitor your pet's appetite. Watch for vomiting, diarrhea, decreased appetite, difficulty breathing, lethargy, weakness, or collapse. If your pet has any of these abnormal signs, please contact a veterinarian immediately.

Getting hit by a car is a traumatic event for both you and your pet. With the proper diagnostics and treatment, many animals can survive and lead long healthy lives. Please don't hesitate to contact us with any questions, problems or concerns.

**Remember, the staff of Wheat Ridge Animal Hospital are here to serve**

### WHEAT RIDGE OFFICE

3695 Kipling St., Wheat Ridge, CO 80033  
Tel 303-940-1239 ● Fax 303-420-8360

### WESTMINSTER OFFICE

945 W 124th Av, Westminster, CO 80234  
Tel 303-350-4733 ● Fax 303-350-4734

### BOULDER OFFICE

1658 30<sup>th</sup> ST, Boulder, CO 80301  
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