Treatment for dog bites

Pets are given purchased tinctures orally of the following herbs for at least five days after a dog bite: Echinacea (*Echinacea purpurea*), goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*), comfrey (*Symphytum officinale*), calendula (*Calendula officinalis*) and astragalus (*Astragalus membranaceous*) (1 drop per 0.45 kg body weight of each herb). A tincture or an olive oil infusion of St. John’s Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) flowers is used orally and externally (1 to 2 drops per 6.8 kg bodyweight) as the only treatment with no other herbs being utilised. In the manual we cautioned that puncture wounds in cats should be monitored to make sure that they stayed open; healing from the inside out. Puncture wounds are flushed with
warm saline solution, then bathed the wound with saline solution plus ½-1 drop tincture of calendula (**Calendula officinalis**) for the duration of the healing process. Pets are also given 1 drop of calendula tincture (**Calendula officinalis**) per 5 kg bodyweight, orally.

*Treatment of dental problems*

One dog was recommended for oral surgery because of a gum inflammation due to a broken tooth. Instead a tincture of myrrh (**Commiphora molmol**) diluted to 50% was dropped on the gum twice a day for four days to alleviate the gum infection. The same diluted tincture (30 to 40 drops in water) was also used by respondents as a rinse for deep abscesses and was supplemented
with the following—60 ml (¼ cup) sage (*Salvia officinalis*), 60 ml (¼ cup) calendula flower, 60 ml (¼ cup) rose hips (*Rosa* sp.).

*Treatment for a raccoon in a coma*

An adult female raccoon, 6.8 kg, not neutered, was involved in a car accident resulting in central nervous system damage. She was in a coma with unknown injuries to the brain, blindness, her muscles were completely rigid and her hands were locked in a clenched position. She had no movement. The raccoon was given species-appropriate food and hydrotherapy treatments in order to increase her mobility. She was considered well after seven months. These tinctures were given to the raccoon:
<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th></th>
<th>Concentration</th>
<th>Tincture 1</th>
<th>Tincture 2</th>
<th>Tincture 3</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Total mls</td>
<td>100 ml</td>
<td>25 ml</td>
<td>120 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Avena sativa</em> seeds and whole plant</td>
<td>1:5/25%</td>
<td>20 ml</td>
<td>10 ml</td>
<td>25 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Hypericum perforatum</em> aerial flowering parts</td>
<td>1:5/45%; 2:5/25% (tinctures 2&amp;3)</td>
<td>20 ml</td>
<td>10 ml</td>
<td>25 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Scutellaria lateriflora</em> aerial parts</td>
<td>2:5/25%</td>
<td>10 ml</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>15 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Ginkgo biloba</em> leaves</td>
<td>1:5/25%</td>
<td>5 ml</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>5 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Eleutherococcus senticosus</em> dried root</td>
<td>1:5/25%</td>
<td>5 ml</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>25 ml</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Medicago sativa</em></td>
<td>1:4/ 25%</td>
<td>20 ml</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Vegetable glycerine</td>
<td>20 ml</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>20 ml</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Centella asiatica</em> aerial parts</td>
<td>1:5/ 25%</td>
<td>5 ml</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>n/a</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td><em>Fagus sylvatica</em> flower essence</td>
<td>2 drops</td>
<td>2 drops</td>
<td>2 drops</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Rescue remedy</td>
<td>n/a</td>
<td>2 drops</td>
<td>2 drops</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Started 2 months after tincture 1 with 10 ml left in the
15 drops mixed into the food twice a day for 66 days

bottle

15 drops mixed into the food twice a day for 23 days

15 drops mixed into the food twice a day for 80 days

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Administration</th>
<th>bottle</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>15 drops mixed into the food twice a day for 66 days</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

49

50

51

52 Treatment for bleeding wounds, sprains, post-operative bleeding, deep wounds, abrasions

53 Injuries are treated with a rinse or soak of Epsom salts mixed with water. Subsequently a commercial calendula gel or flush (Calendula officinalis) is used for external treatment. If a wound is clean, and not likely to be infected the following plants are used in 1.36 litres of water to
make a wash or salve: 80 ml (1/3 cup) cut plantain leaf, 80 ml (1/3 cup) cut comfrey leaf and 80 ml (1/3 cup) packed calendula flowers.

Infected wounds were washed twice daily with an antimicrobial-substitute tea made with any or all of the following: Oregon grape (*Berberis aquifolium*/*Mahonia aquifolium*), St John’s wort (*Hypericum perforatum*), 5 ml (½ tsp) dried leaves goldenseal (*Hydrastis canadensis*), and 5 ml (½ tsp) myrrh (*Commiphora molmol*). When the infection was resolved, a comfrey/plantain/calendula salve was used on the wound.

A solution of 1 part tea tree oil (*Melaleuca alternifolia*) mixed with 9 parts olive oil was
applied to a cotton ball and dabbed straight onto
wounds, bites, rashes, vaccination sites and stings
to help healing and discomfort. Calendula
ointment (*Calendula officinalis*) was used on
closed wounds. Calendula tea or diluted tincture
was used on open wounds (10 to 12 drops of
tincture in 0.23 litres of water per 22.7 to 27.2 kg
bodyweight). An infusion with oil of St. John’s
Wort (*Hypericum perforatum*) was used on
surgery scars. A poultice for wounds was made
with 45 ml (3 tbsp) slippery elm bark powder
(*Ulmus fulva*) with 0.23 litres of water. Self heal
(*Prunella vulgaris*) flowering aerial parts were
crushed and put on wounds. One tsp (5 ml)
plantain leaf (*Plantago major*) or comfrey leaves
(*Symphytum officinalis*) were chewed and used as
a poultice if pets were injured while on walks. A wound wash of myrrh gum resin (*Commiphora molmol*, *C. abyssinica*, *C. myrrha*) (2 ml or ½ tsp) was prepared by infusing the resin for ½ hour in 0.23 litres of water and this wash was dripped onto wounds. Echinacea roots (*Echinacea angustifolia*, *Echinacea purpurea*, *Echinacea pallida*) or a tea of 80 ml (1/3 cup) leaves in 0.46 litres of water were also used for wounds (18 – 20 kg bodyweight). Echinacea root tincture was given orally: 1 or 2 drops.

A lavender wound wash was made with 0.45 litres of distilled water, 2 oz vodka and 15 drops essential oil of lavender (*Lavandula officinalis*). One tbsp (15 ml) of this was used. Or a lavender
infusion was used (5 – 10 ml or 1-2 tsp of dried lavender flowers in 0.23 litres of boiling water).

Raspberry leaf tea (*Rubus idaeus, R. strigosus*) was also used to wash wounds (0.23 litres of boiling water on 5 ml (1 tsp) dried leaves).

Raspberry leaves were also combined with 5 ml (1 tsp) slippery elm bark powder (*Ulmus fulva*) to wash wounds, or they were combined with myrrh.

Another wound wash was made using the following: 30 ml (1/8 cup) of dried Echinacea root (*Echinacea purpurea* or *Echinacea pallida*), 15 ml (1 tbsp) dried self heal (*Prunella vulgaris*), 30 ml (1/8 cup) of dried oregano (*Origanum vulgari*), 15 ml (1 tbsp) dried lavender flowers (*Lavandula angustifolia*), and 15 ml (1 tbs) dried calendula flowers (*Calendula officinalis*) (all chopped and
used to fill 2/3 of a glass jar with vodka added to fill). A salve was made by adding the following to olive oil and beeswax: 15 ml (1 tbsp) fresh comfrey (*Symphytum officinalis*), 15 ml (1 tbsp) calendula (*Calendula officinalis*) flowers and 15 ml (1 tbsp) chickweed (*Stellaria media*). This salve was used to treat a dog whose nose was partially ripped off by a raccoon. The nose was reattached and healed without surgery.

*Treatments for minor anal gland problem in dogs*

Dogs with anal gland problems are given a changed diet (see below). A tea of nettles (*Urtica dioica*) was given as a drink or is mixed with food. Chopped garlic (*Allium sativum*) (1/3 clove) was added to the food. Slippery elm (*Ulmus fulva*) (10
ml or 2 tsp daily, in frequent doses) was added to moist food to aid in defecation. A nettles decoction (*Urtica dioica*) (2 oz of fresh chopped roots or 15 ml (1 tbsp) dried chopped roots in 0.57 litres of water) was given. Or nettles juice was made with an armful of nettles tops and administered.

Four drops of Rescue Remedy (Bach Flower) were given before treatment. Or 15 – 20 drops of calendula tincture (*Calendula officinalis*) were given every two to three hours for acute cases, 15 - 20 drops tincture (1 dropperful) of plantain (*Plantago major*) was also given orally. These tinctures were sometimes diluted before use. An optional addition to the treatment regimen
consisted of 10 to 15 drops (1/2 dropperful) tincture of *Usnea* spp. External treatments consisted of one part tincture of calendula (*Calendula officinalis*) and 1 part tincture of plantain (*Plantago major*) which were applied to warm cotton already soaked in hot saline solution. Optionally one half-part tincture of *Usnea* spp., was used in addition to the above tinctures. These tinctures were applied with pressure directly to the wound for as long as the dog would allow and until the cloth was cool (5 min). While holding the cloth to the wound the dog was massaged on either side of its spine towards the tail. For acute conditions this treatment was given every two to three hours for three days, then three times a day
until the sore healed. *Aloe vera* gel was added to the treatment in the final stages.

*Emergency treatment for a snakebite*

Pets are given an *Echinacea purpurea* tincture for snakebites (unspecified snake) (100 drops every 20 minutes until the tincture was finished). Or a poultice of chewed leaves of plantain (*Plantago major*) with echinacea tincture is used. Both plants are also administered as teas. Yellow dock (*Rumex crispus*) leaves are used when plantain was not available.

*The following remedies are used for arthritis, bruising and rheumatoid arthritis*
Pets are given Acadian sea kelp (*Fucus vesiculosus*) to provide trace minerals, fibre, chlorophyll and antioxidants. Small dogs are given 10 ml (2 tsp) of organic kelp/alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) (1:1) mix per day as an antirheumatic and for joint pain. Medium to large breed dogs are given 30 ml (2 tbsp) kelp/alfalfa mix per day. Or 15 ml (1 tbsp) kelp per 45 kg of patient bodyweight every three days and 10 ml (2 tsp) dried alfalfa leaves every second day.

Other dogs are given 60 ml (1/4 cup) of a strained decoction per day as their drinking water per 11.3 kg patient bodyweight. The plants used were (5 ml or 1 heaping tsp each in 1.8 litres of water):

devil’s claw (*Harpagophytum procumbens*), nettle
leaves (*Urtica dioica*), chaparral (*Larrea tridentata*), hydrangea root (*Hydrangea arborescens*), burdock root (*Arctium lappa*), wild lettuce (*Lactuca virosa*), lobelia (*Lobelia inflata*), sarsaparilla (*Smilax officinalis*), black cohosh (*Actaea/Cimicifuga racemosa*) and black walnut fruit hull (*Juglans nigra*). Added to these plants are Bentonite clay and cayenne pepper.

A horsetail tincture in apple cider vinegar is given every day (20 drops) for extended periods for its mineral content (silica). A 1:1 tincture or tea is used (5 drops daily for a month per 22.7 kg patient bodyweight). The treatments are then suspended for a month. The treatment is restarted for arthritis or to increase the mineral
content of the diet, or for a broken bone. A cayenne tincture (purchased product) 1 to 5 drops, is also used for these conditions. This tincture is considered safe for pets to lick off. Alternatively a homemade paste is made with cayenne powder and vegetable oil and this is then rubbed on, after first testing it on the owner’s wrist. The dose of glucosamine used for a 45.4 kg dog was 1 mg to 2 mg.

Treatment for a dog with an injury to the articular cartilage

The patient was a 34 kg dog that was eight months old. It was limping, had reduced motion, tenderness on touch, instability of the knee-joint and edema. The diet was adjusted to include
supplements that support bone and muscle development. A salve of comfrey (*Symphytum officinalis* leaves and roots) was applied externally. This was used in combination with a tincture of comfrey (whole plant) applied directly on the injured area (1 to 5 drops twice a day) for five days. The treatment was suspended for two days then restarted. While the dog was on the comfrey treatment the meat protein in the diet was reduced. Rescue Remedy (Bach Flower Remedy) was given orally - 4 drops diluted in one glass of water, prior to administration of the salve medication or to keep the dog calm while the injury healed. Also given was a tincture of leaf and root of dandelion (*Taraxacum officinalis*) (15 drops three times a day until resolution).
Additionally one gram (or fluid equivalent) of the bark of white willow (*Salix alba*) was given three times a day with food or with the tinctures for inflammation and pain.

**Diet for a dog with articular cartilage injury**

Nettles (*Urtica dioica*) 28 grams herb: with 0.51 litres of water was given as a tea. Or nettle capsules (210 mg) were given - 4 to 5 capsules once a day; alfalfa (*Medicago sativa*) – 250 mg once a day; garlic (*Allium sativum*) 1 fresh clove daily; white willow (*Salix alba*) – as above; kelp – 2 ml (1/2 tsp) for every 4.5 kg of body weight; sodium ascorbate – ongoing low dose during treatment, 250 – 500 mg, twice daily. If the stools are loose, the dose was reduced.
Treatment for a torn cruciate ligament

This treatment was used for partial tears of the cruciate ligament of a dog. An infusion was made with 30 ml (2 tbsp) snipped fresh leaves of comfrey (Symphytum officinalis) in 0.34 litres of boiling water 5 ml (1 tsp) strained liquid per 11.3 kg bodyweight for two weeks twice a day in the food. An infusion was made with 120 ml (½ cup) comfrey and 60 ml (¼ cup) alfalfa (Medicago sativa) in 0.45 litres of water. The infusion provided interim support until the date for surgery or it was used as a treatment for a minor torn cruciate ligament.