

Hypoglycemia and Puppy Care

When a puppy goes to their new home, it is a very stressful time for them. They are dealing with leaving mom and siblings, car/air travel, new people and a new home. It's important to know the signs and symptoms and how to treat your pup in the event that it's sugar levels should drop. Thinking quickly can save your puppies life.

Symptoms

Hypoglycemia can occur without warning to any healthy puppy so it's best to know the symptoms so you can react quickly. Signs of hypoglycemia are: trouble walking, falling over, listlessness, shaking, stiffening up, seizures and collapsing on their side with feet kicking. (This does not mean while sleeping) In a severe case, they will be on their side and be totally unresponsive or comatose.

IT is important that you act IMMEDIATELY!!! If your puppy's sugar level is not raised immediately, coma, brain damage and/or death can occur.

Treatment

It's best to have Nutri-cal on hand, since it is made to absorb directly into the blood stream. However, if you don't have any, give a small dose of Karo syrup, honey, sugar or pancake syrup. Do not give artificial sweeteners. They are bad for your dog and will not do anything to raise the sugar level. If the puppy is unable to swallow, rub some of the syrup/Nutri-cal on his gums and the roof of his mouth. Do not pour liquid down his throat. This could cause him to choke. Force his mouth open if you have to. You need to get the sugar in his system ASAP. It may be necessary to give more than one dose. You should see an improvement within 10-15 minutes. After the puppy comes around, it's important to get some food into him to get his sugar level back up to normal.

IMPORTANT! If your puppy does not respond after 10-15 minutes, take him immediately to the Vet. Make sure you tell the Vet that you think it's Hypoglycemia. Some vets are not familiar with treating tiny dogs and have never seen a case before. Many puppies have died needlessly while waiting for test results to come in.

Caring for your Puppy after an attack.

Some puppies come around right away but if it was a severe attack it could take hours. Make sure the puppy is eating and drinking. You may have to hand feed. Also continue with the Nutrica/Karo Syrup. Keep the puppy warm and don't let him tire himself out.

Tiny Toy Maltipoo Care

Feeding

Due to their small size, Tiny Toy Maltipoos must be feed small meals every 4 hours for at least the first 3-4 months. It's important to keep food and water available to them at all times. You will be given a sample of the food that the puppy is eating and it's important not to change the food right away. Wait a couple weeks and then do so gradually so that you don't upset their stomach. Be sure your puppy has a small meal right before he goes to bed at night and as soon as he wakes up in the morning. If your puppy won't eat, you can feed him/she small pieces of cooked chicken. It is important that they eat so that their sugar does not drop.

It's also good to keep a tube of Nutri-cal on hand for the Tiny Toys. This can be given at least 3 times a day and after your puppy had been actively playing. Nutri-cal will help stimulate your pup's appetite and provides an added source of energy.

Confine Your Puppy

It's important to keep your puppy confined to a small area when you are not playing with them. I use a small playpen which provides room for food and water, a litter box/pee pad, a bed and toys for him to play with. As they get older, you can increase their space. This will also aid in the potty training. Never leave them unattended. Because of their tiny size, they can break bones by knocking something over or falling etc.

Puppies should only play for short periods of time. They will tire themselves out and forget to eat. After playing with your pup, give him a small dose of Nutri-cal or Karo syrup and then put him in his play area to rest.

Handling

Make sure you have a firm grip on your puppy at all times. These little guys can wiggle themselves lose in a flash. Many fatalities and broken bones have been caused by dogs wiggling out of an owner arms or jumping for the couch/bed. Remember these puppies are very small and a fall from 2 feet can be fatal.

Hypoglycemia

Hypoglycemia (low blood sugar) is a condition where the blood sugar drops to extremely low levels. This is usually caused by lack of food but can be cause by stress as well. Tiny Toys have a tiny digestive system and can only store small amounts of energy in their bodies at a time. As their bodies grow, they tend to outgrow this condition and are able to go for longer periods without food.