

## Helpful Home Hints by Dr. Bruce Syme (Vets All Natural)

**"Here is an ever growing list of helpful home remedies that might just save you a visit to your vet. These hints are designed to treat minor problems, so please always remember, serious problems should always be treated by your vet."**

- 3% hydrogen peroxide solution (as you can buy at the supermarket) is an excellent all- purpose wound cleaner for both skin and mucky ear canals. It foams up when it contacts dirty material from a contaminated wound.
- Tea tree oil is a powerful natural anti bacterial and anti fungal agent. It can be used on skin lesions and a drop or two in ear canals. But remember, avoid using it where an animal can lick it off (especially with cats). Dilute it to about 25% if in doubt.
- Cold chamomile tea is a safe and soothing eye wash for sore eyes (conjunctivitis). You must be sure that there is nothing more seriously wrong with the eye, like an ulcer or foreign body. If an eye is still sore after a few hours, please seek veterinary attention.
- Aloe vera jelly (pure) will speed the healing of all sorts of cuts and skin injuries. Combined with Manuka honey it makes a fantastic healing gel for large wounds.
- If your dog has itchy skin, don't use any shampoo on it. It will only make the skin problem worse. Try starting adding flax seed oil to the diet instead.
- If you suspect your dog has a grass seed in the ear, and you cant get to a vet, try filling the ear with warm olive oil and gently massaging the ear. If you are lucky, the grass seed will float to the top on the oil, and you can remove it, but if not, it generally softens the seed so it is not as painful.
- The herbs Ginseng and Ginko Biloba are a good combination for old dogs and cats that are going "senile"
- If you have a very nervous animal, try treating it with Rescue Remedy (from a health food shop). You can also try vitamin B6 and Magnesium Orotate.
- If you suspect your pet is constipated, you can try giving them aloe vera juice, vitamin C powder or epsom salts (dissolved in water)..they are all powerful laxatives.