

XYLITOL: DEADLY TO DOGS

Xylitol is more common than you think; protect your pup

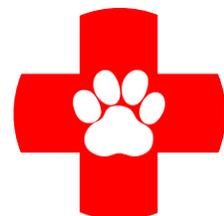


Xylitol is all around us

Protect your dog from more than just chocolate

Time to add to the list. You know your dog can't have chocolate or grapes, but there is a more deadly chemical and it's in more common household items than you would think. Xylitol is a chemical generally used to replace sugar in many sugar-free products. Even though humans can process Xylitol like a sugar, dogs bodies can't process it at all. Consumption of Xylitol by your dog can be deadly and very quickly. Don't be caught off guard. Know what contains it in your house.

Think your dog has digested Xylitol? Bring your dog immediately to a veterinary center. The effects of Xylitol on her biology can work very quickly (anywhere from 10 - 60 minutes from time of ingestion).



THINGS CONTAINING XYLITOL

- ▶ TOOTHPASTE & MOUTHWASH
- ▶ MANY PACKAGED BAKED GOODS & BAKING MIXES (PARTICULARLY SUGAR-FREE)
- ▶ CHOCOLATE (PARTICULARLY SUGAR-FREE)
- ▶ SOME NUT BUTTERS
- ▶ CANDIES, CHEWING GUM & MINTS
- ▶ JAMS, SYRUPS, HONEYS
- ▶ PROTEIN BARS & POWDERS
- ▶ MEDICINES, VITAMINS & SUPPLEMENTS
- ▶ SOME COSMETICS & BODY PRODUCTS

WARNING:

ALWAYS CHECK THE LABEL. DID YOUR DOG EAT SOMETHING ON THIS LIST? DOUBLE CHECK THE PACKAGE FOR XYLITOL IMMEDIATELY.

THE NERD CORNER: HOW XYLITOL AFFECTS A DOG'S BIOLOGY

"In both humans and dogs, the level of blood sugar is controlled by the release of insulin from the pancreas. Xylitol does not stimulate the release of insulin from the pancreas in humans. However, when non-primate species like dogs eat something containing xylitol, the xylitol is quickly absorbed into the bloodstream, resulting in a potent release of insulin from the pancreas. This rapid release of insulin causes a rapid and profound decrease in the level of blood sugar (hypoglycemia), an effect that occurs within 10-60 minutes of eating the xylitol. Untreated, this hypoglycemia can be life-threatening."

- VCA Hospitals (www.vcahospitals.com)

