

Secondhand Smoke and Pets



SECONDHAND SMOKE HARMS PETS

- In the U.S., almost twice as many households have pets than have children under age 18.[1]
- About one-fifth of pet owners are cigarette smokers.[2]
- Because pets, like small children, spend time near the floor where smoke residue concentrates, they may be at high risk of exposure to secondhand and thirdhand smoke.[2, 3]
- Thirdhand smoke is residue that lingers after the smoke is gone and can be found on clothing, sofas, and carpeting.[3]

SECONDHAND SMOKE HURTS DOGS

- Exposure to cigarette smoke may lead to asthma symptoms, lung cancer and other forms of cancer in dogs.[4]
- Cotinine, a by-product of nicotine, has been found in the urine of dogs exposed to secondhand smoke in the home; dogs in non-smoking homes showed no cotinine.[4]
- Dogs in homes of smokers were more likely to have difficulty breathing and more likely to develop lung diseases than those in nonsmoking homes.[4]
- Long-nosed dog breeds have an increased risk for nasal cancer because the smoke stays in the nose longer. Short-nosed dog breeds have an increased risk for lung cancer because the smoke is not filtered in the nose and it goes directly into the lungs.[5]
- The animal's size also impacts health risks. Smaller dogs spend more time in intimate contact with their owners and are closer to cigarette smoke.[4]

SECONDHAND SMOKE PUTS CATS AT RISK

- Secondhand smoke increases the risk that cats will develop lymphoma, a cancer of the immune system.[6]
- Cats that live in a household with a smoker have a 2-fold increase in risk of oral cancer.[6]
- Cats whose owners reported smoking 1-19 cigarettes per day had a significant (4-fold) increase in the risk of oral cancer compared to cats in nonsmoking households.[6]
- While grooming, cats consume the cancer-causing chemicals that accumulate on their fur. The constant grooming exposes the mucous membranes in the throat to cancer-causing chemicals.[7]

**No tobacco smoke in
your home and car
means healthier, happier
pets!**



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