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## a hand to paw temple dog handbook



EDUCATION AND COMMUNICATION

# Care for Dogs Foundation

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## Introduction

My previous years of experience volunteering with two dog rescue organizations in Thailand is what helped prepare me to work with abandoned, sick and abused dogs living in a temple environment. I independently began working with temple dogs three years ago by caring for one very sick dog which slowly over time grew to the creation and expansion of a student group initiative called “Hand to Paw Temple Outreach” now caring for over 40 dogs in 6 temples.

From experience, I have recognized that a temple outreach program is not a one-size-fits-all; therefore, my wish was simply to write a road map to educate and prepare new temple dog caregivers with a path to success - caring for the temple dogs in one’s own community whether independently or as a group undertaking.

Starting a temple dog outreach will be a life-changing for both you and everyone involved. Like me, you will soon come to learn that common sense is helpful, but hands-on experience is what will help hone your “gut feeling” and first-aid skills. My only words of advice and I cannot emphasize enough is the fact that each and every act of kindness towards a temple dog, whether big or small, *truly will make a difference!*

I will continuously update the Hand to Paw Temple Outreach handbook as I receive new ideas, experience and information. I wish you well in your new life-endeavor and welcome your comments and questions.

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## What is Hand to Paw Temple Outreach?

*"I shall pass through this world but once.  
Any good therefore that I can do  
or any kindness that I can show to any (living creature),  
let me do it now.  
Let me not defer or neglect it,  
for I shall not pass this way again."*  
-Mahatma Gandhi

A group of animal-loving, service oriented individuals and/or students working together to promote a sustainable, healthy dog population at the temples in their surrounding community.

Hand to Paw believes the temples are an integral part of one's community and the dogs that reside within those grounds are a community responsibility. With love and care we hope to provide these homeless street dogs a secure and healthy environment in which to live.

A long term goal is to educate both students and locals against animal cruelty and stress what the importance that dog sterilizations, immunizations and basic healthcare can have on our community.

Required immunizations, sterilizations, medical and healthcare supplies and emergency medical treatments are all compensated by volunteer fundraising efforts, donations from the public, and the Care for Dogs Foundation.

The temple outreach program when favorably accepted by the head abbots and novice monks, village mayors and elders ensures a long lasting community endeavor. Our motto: Together we can make a difference!

### What your Hand to Paw Outreach can do

- **Give Love and Care.** Responsible for a specific dog during their program, students assess and tend to their dog for malnutrition, injuries, dog bites, illness, ticks and fleas with each visit. (Student run program)
- **Guarantee** that all dogs in your care are sterilized and vaccinated.
- **Assess** the ever changing growth or loss of the dog population at the temple/temples under your care.
- **Carry out** fundraising efforts throughout the year to support all your Hand to Paw efforts.
- **Offer** immediate medical treatment and/or vet visits for any temple dog afflicted with an illness or injury.
- **Deter** serious illness with regular bathing, spraying for ticks and fleas and cleaning food and water bowls with each visit.
- **Maintain** an updated medical history record for every dog under your care.

- **Organize** community workshops to provide education, vaccines and sterilization assistance for local villagers and their pets.
- **Teach** the monks how to administer medicines or other treatments for ill dogs at their temple.
- **Provide** post-natal care and adoption assistance for abandoned puppies disposed within the temple grounds.
- **Donate** monthly supplies of dry dog food to support the monks with daily feeding.

## Care for Dogs Foundation – A partnership

*Saving one dog won't change the world, but surely, the world will change for that one dog.*

IF you are living in Chiang Mai, Thailand the Care for Dogs (CfD) Foundation can offer an invaluable support system to your Hand to Paw Temple Outreach program. The foundation's shelter is set-up to provide homeless street dogs with sterilization, medical care for dogs in need, adoption programs, vaccinations, temporary care, and community education programs. It whole-heartedly supports outreach programs in the community looking to provide help to street dogs living at temples, schoolyards or other makeshift homes.



It is vital that you create and present your program to the staff at CfD to establish what type of support and assistance they can provide. Each Hand to Paw Outreach program will be assessed individually.

If you do not reside in Chiang Mai, take the time to contact your local animal shelter, animal rescue center, kennel or vet clinics to see what offer of assistance they can provide. Their support can range anywhere from health care training, advice, emergency shelter, donated supplies or financial assistance. It is worth the added effort and reinforces your community link.

### Care for Dogs support: *(Based on your Hand to Paw program)*

- **Gives** volunteers basic health care training, advice, translation and temple assistance.
- **Promotes** education and offers information regarding humane treatment of all animals.
- **Shares** the CfD website for Hand to Paw blogs, stories, updates and adoption assistance.
- **Offers** assistance for vaccines and sterilizations.
- **Provides** temporary shelter for treatment and convalescence for serious injuries or illness.
- **Makes available** to the monks the CfD 24-hour emergency hotline.
- **Emotional support** in times of need, stress, or crisis. The CfD staff is well seasoned to the trials and tribulations of an outreach program. Their daily work with street dogs has instilled in them true empathy and compassion. They are there for you 24 hours a day in times of emotional distress.

## A Rescuer's Creed

I shall be a believer of all that is good in man and of all that is deserving in animals.  
 I shall plead for their lives, campaign for their safety and uphold their right to a natural death.  
 I shall seek out the injured and the maimed, the unloved, and the abandoned and tend to them in their last days.  
 I shall not forget their place in the hierarchy of life, nor that we walk in each other's paths.  
 I shall bear witness to the wonder they bring into our lives and to the beauty they bestow upon our souls.  
 I shall renew their spirits when they are waning, bind their wounds when they bleed, cradle them when they whimper, and comfort them when they mourn.  
 I shall be near them in their hour of greatest need - a companion and friend when the time has come.  
 I shall watch over them and console them and ask that the angels gather them in their arms.  
 From the creatures of the earth I shall learn the fruits of compassion and undying love, and I shall be called the beloved of God. In their company I shall indeed be blessed. - *Susan M. Pearson*

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## Getting started

*The worst sin towards our fellow creatures is not to hate them, but to be indifferent to them. That's the essence of inhumanity.”  
- George Bernard Shaw*

There is no need to be intimidated when thinking about starting an outreach program. Each program will reflect your intentions and capabilities. Always remember if you only have one person and can only help one dog, that that is enough to get started. Start small and grow slowly, this will ensure the success of your program. You will need to continually assess your personal and emotional commitment. Caring for homeless dogs is fraught with highs and lows, heartache and tender love, emergencies and victories. There are no guarantees that the help and care you are going to provide to these dogs is going to bring them a happy, healthy and secure place to live. The reality of the situation is that they are still street dogs, left on their own to face the world everyday.

## Pre-program planning

Before implementing your Hand to Paw Outreach there are careful things to consider. It can be both physically and emotionally consuming. Here are a few questions to ask your self:

- How many temples are in our community?
- Realistically, how many temples and dogs can you support?
- What are your goals?
- Are the temples within walking or short driving distance to your school or home?
- Is this to be a temporary or long-term commitment? What is your time commitment?
- Will this be a student led initiative or an individual project?
- Will you have the support of your family, school, students, parents, community, and temple?
- Do you have the capabilities to raise funds needed before implementing and maintaining the program?
- At the onset of your program will you be able to raise enough funds for some or all of the below (remember you can work in stages, not everything can be accomplished overnight):
  - medical first-aid kit
  - initial vaccines
  - vet visits for immediate cases of mange, injury, illness, medications
  - sterilization (female only or female and male)
  - transportation (if, needed for sterilizations, vet visit, emergencies)
  - food support

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## Coordinators, volunteers & students

**A Student and temple coordinator's** primary function is to inspire, inform and involve today's youth to take action caring for the temple dogs in their communities. The temple outreach program is ultimately your responsibility from start to finish. You will be regularly engaged in computer work, human interactions, canine interactions, daily maintenance activities, vet visits, networking, fundraising, publicity and much more.

Responsibilities (This can be done on a small or large scale)

- **Recruitment** – select a target student group to be the backbone of your temple outreach program, work with your school to organize registration, recruitment, program expenses, transportation.
- **Events** – plans and coordinates temple visit, temple set-up, daily temple activities
- **Training** – emphasize the benefits of a temple outreach program and teaches skills in basic animal first aid, health knowledge and issues, dog behavior, social impact, etc.
- **Motivation** – engage students, the school, faculty, parents and the community. Encourage student hands-on participation at the temple.
- **Promotion** – design and administer website, Facebook page or blog; brochures, flyers, T-shirt, etc.
- **Organization** – Set-up an accurate accounting program, create and manage Dog Info Binder, coordinate and market fundraising events/activities throughout the year to support the program
- **Planning** – budget the programs donations to support Hand to Paw activities and expenses

**V**olunteers can be friends, parents, teachers or people that live in the community committed to the Hand to Paw mission and want to take an active role.

Responsibilities:

- support the coordinator in organizing the days visit to temple
- assist and supervise the students throughout their temple activities
- assist with fundraising ideas and implementation
- (Optional) can take an active role in vet visits, health care, training, accounting, etc.

**S**tudents are the key to the success of the Hand to Paw program. They bring credibility and generate attention from the public to Hand to Paws mission. Hand to Paw looks for students that show and interest in animal welfare; promoting a sustainable, healthy dog population at the temples in their surrounding communities. *Recommended: 1 coordinator, 1 volunteer/per 10 students*

All students bring their own special traits to the program:

- Junior School (grade 5): enthusiastic, good attendance, willingness to learn new things
- Senior School (grade 6-12): require less supervision, able to do more complicated tasks, assist with fundraising, willing to participate on weekends, can inspire more involvement
- **Note:** Many Senior school students are looking for a program that requires service hours for their class personal projects, community action service (CAS) programs, International Award, etc.

## Temples

**E**ach temple has its own personal dynamics; village prosperity, dog population, number of monks, and living conditions all contribute to these individual environments, therefore, Hand to Paw support and assistance differs from one temple to the other at any given time. On average a temple in Thailand can home anywhere from 3 to 12 dogs. This population is ever changing and must be assessed on a continual basis to ensure that all dogs are cared and accounted for. It must be taken into account before starting your program

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how many dogs you will be capable of handling. There is no sense to start a program in a temple that is home to 12 dogs when you only have the resources and manpower to care for 2 dogs.

Most temples in Thailand have a head Abbott (Luang Por) and a number of novice monks that reside on the temple grounds. The support and acceptance you receive from them is crucial to the success of your program. Often times, you will not feel this in the beginning phases. This does not mean that trust, appreciation or understanding of Hand to Paw Outreach will not develop. Working continually to build up this relationship will be reflected by your continued involvement and help you provide. Although their support is welcome, you only need their approval to get the program rolling. The rest will cultivate over time.

## Monks

An initial meeting needs to be set up to speak to the head abbot of the temple. A translator is mandatory whether it be a student or some other individual, if the lead coordinator does not speak Thai. A thorough understanding of what services you are willing to bring to his temple must be laid out at this time. Only relate what your program is capable of delivering. It is suggested that a student is selected to ask the relative questions, this emphasizes the student-led initiative. Have the student ask questions from a questionnaire and fill in all the information as he speaks with the head abbot.

Ask the head abbot if he or a novice monk can be assigned to the welfare of the dogs. This monk will be the liaison between the temple and Hand to Paw. Any telephone conversation, questions, dog issues, etc. will be directed to this monk. Any training, guidelines on basic health and dispensing of medications will be the duties of this monk. Communication is vital. Emphasize the importance of working together to make a difference! Explain to the head abbot the time schedule you will be committing to their temple: e.g. when will you begin, once a week, once a month, one hour, 3 hours, etc.

If the head abbot is agreeable to your Hand to Paw Outreach, make a thorough walk around and survey of the temple grounds and dogs. Make any necessary notes. Do not attempt to confront dogs until an agreement has been made and the health of each dog has been assessed. Many schools require the dogs be vaccinated against rabies before students can work with the dogs.

Once a contact person is made at the temple deliver a laminated contact card with essential details:



**Name of School**

**Name of coordinator** (English and Thai) Give a Thai contact that can contact you immediately should they receive a call from the temple requiring assistance.

**Mobile Number**

If you are working in conjunction with Care for Dogs list their Hotline number and Thai contact.

**Note:** It is the Buddhist way that you are not to touch a monk directly. If you need to hand a monk anything, place on a piece of cardboard, plate or his robe and present to him. If they are assisting with medications or vaccinations, try to avoid touching them. Sometimes it is not possible to avoid total physical contact and they quite understand in this event.

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**Temple Questionnaire:**

# Hand to Paw Outreach Temple Questionnaire

**Temple:**

**Date:**

How many dogs reside at the temple?

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How many are Female or Male?

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How many are puppies?

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Do any of the dogs have names?

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Are any dogs in immediate need of care?

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What are the injuries or possible illness?

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How many dog bowls are present?

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Is there a water bowl or bucket present?

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How many times a day is the dogs fed?

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Who feeds the dogs (name)?

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What is the Luang Por's Name?

Telephone:

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What is the monks' name that will look after the dogs?

Telephone:

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What day would be a good day to schedule a vaccine day with monks present to help?

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What dogs will be the first to be sterilized?

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What monk will give the medicine to the dog after the surgery?

(We will explain how to give medicine and return to remove stitches after 7-10 days)

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Will the temple be able to help raise funds for the health and well being of the temple dogs? How?

Contact name?

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## Temple dogs

When dumped at temples, these homeless street dogs fight for their lives and if they survive without being turned out or managing to find some food of their own, by their nature they will join the masses. These places are not picture card tropical rest homes; secure and safe, but sad, often dreary and pitiful places. Some temples have literally hundreds of dogs and it is not because monks particularly like dogs, but because they get overwhelmed by dumped dogs from irresponsible owners. Some in fact want to move dogs out from the temples by any means possible.

The dogs at the temples range from big to small, frightened or friendly, emancipated to relatively healthy. They can be subject to all types of skin or body diseases, injuries, over-breeding, animal cruelty and malnutrition. Puppies are extremely susceptible to the Parvo virus, worms, malnutrition and other life threatening diseases. No one to look at them, no one to touch them, no one to help them, they are left to their own means of survival. It is on a rare occasion that you will find a temple that looks after their dogs properly.

After three years of working with temple dogs, we have found that in our case (6 temples) that the monks DO care for their dogs, they just do not have the time, knowledge, means or finances to do so. They can provide the basic daily needs, love and attention. This is where we (the community) can come in and help.

## Abandoned temple dogs and puppies

For both safety and parental peace of mind when working with students it should be mandatory that all dogs be vaccinated to include rabies before students begin to work at the temple.

It is advised that students should not touch or play with any new abandoned dogs and puppies until a thorough health check and vaccine is given to the new arrivals. This is for their own protection and to eliminate any spread of parvo or distemper to their household should a dog be infected.

New dogs into a temple environment will most likely be frightened, harassed by the other dogs, dirty, sick or malnourished. Your Hand to Paw program should have an emergency response guideline put into place to care immediately for these new arrivals to include: assess their state of health, work to gain their trust (this can take time), vaccinate, de-worm, bathe (as soon as you are able), work with the monks to create a secure environment, provide additional canned food if the dog is severely malnourished, provide [emergency puppy care](#) for all new pups.

If the dog has a medical issue or illness requiring a vet visit, do so immediately to relieve any suffering they may be experiencing and for the safety of the other dogs at the temple.

## First day

Remember, many of these dogs have never had the touch of a human hand before. Trust takes time, therefore:

- Move slowly, do not make loud noises.
- Do not have any of the students make a quick movement towards any of the dogs.
- Do not crowd around one dog. Assigning one dog to one student caretaker works well for this.
- Never approach a dog that is eating, sleeping, or guarding something. Dogs naturally guard their babies, food, bones, and toys.
- Never chase or tease dogs. Don't poke, hit, pull, or pinch a dog.
- Never approach a dog that is injured.

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- Get down to the dogs level, speak softly, extend your hand out slowly in a fist with the top of the hand upward. Allow the dog to approach and sniff. Do not pet until it appears the dog wants to be touched.
  - A doggie treat or small amount of food is a wonderful way to gain a dog's trust.
  - Be patient, it can sometime take up to 3-12 months to gain a dogs trust. Never give up!
  - Understand that some dogs do not like to be petted or held. Give them their space. You will still be able to provide care and love from a distance.
  - Often times the monks are able to approach dogs that you cannot. Ask the monks for help and assistance if you need to observe a dog at a closer range, administer tick & flea spray, medicines or vaccinations. They are often willing to help.

## When to visit

Your own Hand to Paw program, objectives and schedules will often times dictate when your temple visit will take place. As an after school program the time should follow immediately after class time finishes. After school programs are usually once a week, 1 to 1 ½ hours in duration. This is ample time to get to the temple and take part in whatever duty you have scheduled for the days activities. If possible, the program coordinator needs to arrive before the students in order to set up bathing station, health care maintenance table and set out the "Info Binder".

Depending on how many temples are in your program a weekly or bi-monthly visit is mandatory to keep up the health and well-being of the dogs in your care. Often times a weekend visit is also needed by the coordinator or group of students. This time can be allotted for any vet visits, sterilizations or dog care that was not completed during the weekly visit.

We have found on most occasions no restrictions apply to visiting the temple. It is out of courtesy that you inform the head Abbott of the scheduled day and time your group has scheduled to visit the temple.

Temple funerals, tamboon or other celebrations can also affect the timing of your visit. It is not that you could not carry out your program during these times, but you will find the large gathering of people, loud music or other festivities frighten the dogs into hiding. Also, during mid-day you may not find any monks at the temple as they novice monks will be at school and head Abbott may be called away for other commitments. You can still carry out your program regardless if any monks are on the premises.

## Daily set-up

Unless you have a specific activity planned for the days temple visit (i.e. vaccines) a routine setup plan should be put into action. This is an example of our set-up plan and daily activities:

**Coordinator (Pre-set up)** – arrives 30-60 minutes before the students to make sure all supplies and stations are set-up. This is also a good time to bathe any dog that is too shy around students.

1. Set-up bathing station ([see supply list](#)) – Find the best suitable water spigot on the temple grounds. If you have more than 8 dogs at the temple, 2 stations may need to be set up.
2. Set-up a towel on a table or bench in the temple grounds. Place [skin, ear and eye treatment items](#) for easy access for the students. You do not need to put our supplies that won't be used on that day.
3. Place [Info Binder](#) on the table. Make sure to have one or two pens for documenting the days work.
4. If you are going to present an education activity that day, make sure all supplies needed are on the covered table.
5. Place dish soap and sponges close to the table for easy access.

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## Daily activities – 1 hour

1. Assign groups of 2-3 students to [bathe](#) and rinse one dog, dry thoroughly, check for ticks and fleas, brush or comb, if needed, clean ears...don't forget the doggie treats!
2. Ask coordinator or volunteer with any assistance with bathing, ear mites, etc.
3. If the dog has any wound or unusual symptoms, notify the coordinator to demonstrate a procedure or take a closer inspection of the dog.
4. Document what was done on that dog in the Info Binder
5. Clean dog food and water bowls
6. Check to see if there is plenty of dry dog food available (Optional – if you provide dry food)
7. Sweep dog sleeping area and change bedding or blankets for cleaning (Optional – if you provide warm bedding)
8. Speak to the monks if there are any concerns or questions about the dogs
9. Clean up

**Educational activities – 1 hour** – On random occasions it is important to focus on one learning element about first aid procedures or canine health issues so that students will continually learn something new during the program and become better, educated caregivers. One subject can cover several visits to a temple as the students need to learn how to become aware, retain the knowledge and hone their skills.

### Example lessons:

- **Ear Mites** – what are they, how to recognize them, proper cleaning and prevention techniques. An A3 laminated sign with info and photo of a mite is helpful.
- **E-canis** – this terrible blood parasite transferred from ticks is endemic in dogs throughout Thailand and every dog checked for early warning signs on each temple visit. Learning the early warning signs and symptoms, how to test and treat, how to remove a tick, tick prevention solutions. An A3 laminated sign with info and photo of a mite is helpful.
- **Injections** – Vaccines, heartworm and tick & flea prevention injections are a common occurrence for good canine health care. Many students have a fear of actually administering the jab, but are quite keen on learning how to fill a syringe, learning proper dosage terminology, needle safety and trial injections.
  - Equipment needed: old syringes, needles, old vaccine vials filled with water or glycerin, beanbag or oranges to practice on, empty jar to place used needles
  - On vaccine, tick & flea prevention or heartworm days, have the students weigh the dog, calculate proper dosage, fill syringe and help hold the dog. More advanced students can inject the dog with assistance.
- Demonstrate proper bathing and ear cleaning techniques to be used on the temple dogs
- If any dog at your temple has recently been diagnosed with an illness or suffered an injury, make for a good subject for an education class.

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## Info binder

One of the most important tools needed for a Hand to Paw program is accurate documentation of a dog's profile and daily health chart. You need to begin by creating a binder that lists every dog in the temple. Each time you visit a temple or provide any health care a journal entry needs to be made. As there will be several different students handling one dog at any given time, that student needs to record what they accomplished that day and any other observations about the dog's health. This will help the coordinator to keep track of each dog's history and also helps the next student that comes to care for that dog see what needs to be done.

It is **very important** to note every vaccine, sterilization, vet visit, diagnosis and prescribed care for that dog. This will not only help you to remember a dog's history, but will also help you to see what was done in the event you have a similar circumstance in the future.

Three other important documents are

- **Monthly calendar planner** to record what needs to be done on any specific date; i.e. yearly vaccine, vet visit, etc.
- **Tick & flea prevention chart** to note what days the Ivomec, Heartguard or tick and flea collars are given. We have found that keeping this as a separate document assures that this monthly treatment is not forgotten or overlooked.
- **Vaccine booklet** – One book per dog (books come with vaccine purchase), record all vaccinations and note the date for the one year booster vaccine. Also record this date in your monthly calendar.

## Dog Profile (Example)

- Cover page should include a photo of the dog
- Dog's name
- Color, discerning characteristics
- Dog's weight
- Gender (male/female)
- Approximate age (Reference date)
- Personality traits
- Sterilization date

## Dog Daily Health Chart (Example)

dog's name:									
date	bath	T & F spray	de-worm	Clean Ears	vaccine	Tick & Flea prevention	Meds	keep an eye on	Other treatment

---

## Tick & Flea Prevention Chart (Example)

### Temple Name

Dog	Date	Date	Date	Date	Weight	Med	Dose	Notes
Lucky	1-Sep-11	1 Oct 11			38 kg	Ivomec	.9 cc	
Khao	1-Sep-11	1 Oct 11			18 kg	Ivomec	.5 cc	
Dharma	1-Sep-11	1 Oct 11			13 kg	Ivomec	.4 cc	
Winnie	1-Sep-11	1 Oct 11			18 kg	Heartguard	1 tab	Liver problems

### Vaccines

Vaccinations are probably the single most important part of a dog's health care. See Chapter 3 (Basic Health Care) on [Vaccinations](#) for detailed information.

### Sterilization

Hand to Paw and Care for Dogs Foundation are advocates for spaying and neutering of dogs. Due to funding most outreach programs are unable to afford the cost of both spaying and neutering; therefore, we strongly recommend spaying the females as a first priority.

Spaying, or ovariohysterectomy, is the surgical removal of the animal's ovaries and uterus. By preventing pregnancy, spaying permanently eliminates a source of great physical stress for female animals, including complications and poor health. If female dogs are not spayed their heat periods occur twice a year and last about 3 weeks each time.

Spaying female temple dogs eliminates:

- Attendant males in abundance while the female is in heat
- Incessant dog barking at night while female dogs are in heat
- Over population of dogs in the temple
- Risk of mammary, ovary or uterine tumors and uterine infections
- Stress, leading to increased susceptibility to disease. Female dogs in Thailand are often attacked by packs of male dogs when in heat.
- Need for extra food during pregnancy and nursing. Due to the lack of food at temples, most pregnant street dogs look emaciated and weak.

### Temple Spay and Return program

Primarily, Hand to Paw focuses on the female population because it is the most effective route to reducing the number of puppies born despite the surgical operation being slightly more expensive than the sterilization procedure on a male dog. If we were to spend donated money equally on adult male and female surgical procedures, the resultant birth reduction would not be the same; however, we do neuter all male and female puppies. When H2P funds are doing well, we will neuter the male temple dogs from 5 months of age.

### With Care for Dogs assistance

This option is best suited for temples with an initially large female population, your H2P program is financially limited or you have an unapproachable dog. CfD concentrates on female dogs as they are dealing with a high number of dogs needing sterilization.

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Their location in Hang Dong (south of Chiang Mai city center) may make it an unsuitable choice if your temple is located in distant locations around the city.

- Have your H2P coordinator, the Luang Por or representative of the temple contact Care for Dogs to get on the waiting list to have their temple dogs sterilized. The time varies according to how long the list is. At the moment our waiting list is quite long, so urgent cases (f.ex. females coming to heat) may need to be taken to your local vet.
- Have them call the Thai number 086 913 8701 to have Thai language assistance.
- Have the following info ready for the Thai staff:
  - Name of the temple
  - Location of the temple
  - Telephone number of the Luang Por and temple coordinator (if they have one)
  - How many female dogs?
  - Do they have any puppies?
  - Can they assist the CFD staff to gather the dogs when the truck comes to pick them up?
  - Do they have any dogs that are unapproachable that may require a sedative or blow dart gun?

Usually the waiting list is 6-8 weeks long, sometimes even longer due to many cases we have with our limited capacity. So certain date cannot be set beforehand yet.

Care for Dogs contact information: (086-913 8701 Thai, 0847 5252 55 English) or email [contact@carefordogs.org](mailto:contact@carefordogs.org).

### **Guidelines:**

1. Transport dog to the shelter or organize pick-up by Care for Dogs staff
2. CfD will temporarily home the dog at the shelter for a short period to assess its health condition and ultimately to cease the feeding of the dog 12 hours before an operation
3. Sterilization is performed at the CfD shelter by their on-site vet
4. Home the dog for 7-10 days at the shelter and administer post op medical care; anti-inflammatory and antibiotic medicines, the fitting of a plastic anti-lick collar and daily wound dressing
5. Pick up or have the dog returned to the temple it came from, unless the dog is staying at the shelter for either further medical treatments or possible adoption.
6. Sterilization Cost – No charge, but subject to availability. Donations are greatly appreciated.

### **H2P self-organized sterilization**

This choice works best if you have only one or two dogs that need to be sterilized, you can handle the dog safely, provide your own transportation, provide follow-up assistance and your fundraising efforts can cover the cost of the operation.

1. Identify the dog requiring sterilization (Puppy's can be sterilized when they are 5 months of age)
2. Notify the monks at the temple and inform them to cease the feeding of the dog 12 hours before an operation
3. Arrange with a veterinarian to perform the sterilization
4. Deliver the dog to the veterinarian
5. Collect the dog after surgery and pay for the procedure

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6. Place anti-lick collar (Elizabethan collar/cone) on the dog
  7. Return the dog to the temple and make sure she is in a comfortable, safe, dry and warm environment. At this point her anesthesia may not have worn off and she will be in a sleeping state for several hours.
  8. Explain to the monks how to administer post op medical care or provide written Thai instructions.
    - Provide them with anti-inflammatory and antibiotic medicines, small amount of Betadine and cotton balls for wound cleaning. Provide emergency and vet phone numbers in the event there are any complications.
    - **SEE “Post-Sterilization Medication directions (THAI translation)” FORM**
  9. If time allows, follow up every 2-3 days to check on the incision and clean the wound.
  10. Return to the temple to remove stitches after 7 days for males and 9-10 days for females. Use flat-bottomed surgical scissors for this procedure. A monk or student’s assistance is often required to hold the dog.
  11. **Sterilization Cost** - Vets will often times offer a discounted rate for temple dogs for this procedure. Each female dog currently costs about 800-1200 baht (males 300-800 baht) which is the approximate equivalent of 26 - 40 USD. This includes the medication.

## **Dog Food**

Most temples provide their dogs with only one meal a day and this is usually done in the morning. Once a day, monks must go out into the village to collect their food alms. The dogs are mainly fed these leftovers that the monks do not eat and this can be anything from spicy curries, pickled vegetables, white rice, desserts and other foods unsuitable for a dog’s health. Also, many temples have only a head abbot (Luang Por) or older monk living together with several young novice monks on the temple grounds. These novice monks attend school during the day, Monday through Friday, and need to depart for school about 7-7:30 am. This leaves very little time for the monks to collect and prepare food for the dogs, often times leaving them unfed. Weak, sick and shy dogs can also be left unfed or malnourished due to their condition.

Again, each temple has its own diverse way of dealing with their dog population. If your Hand to Paw program finds the dogs at the temple to be underweight or dealing with a large population of dogs, you may want to consider providing subsidized dry-dog food on a monthly or bi-monthly basis if funding allows. These food donations can greatly increase the health and well-being of the dogs and can provide up to 2 meals a day; one meal of the temple food and one meal with dry dog food.

If food donations are an option for your program, it must be carefully monitored so that re-stocking takes place on schedule. Both the monks and the dogs will gain a dependence on this food source and it is up to the H2P program to live up to this responsibility.

Teaching the monks to feed the dogs 2 times a day and providing a water bowl or bowls near the food can be a challenge. The water bowls need to be cleaned and filled daily. You will find that most temples have no water source for their dogs. You may find that this essential lesson will have to be repeated continually in order to stress its importance. If water bowls are not cleaned and filled, make sure to do so with each and every visit to the temple.

Donating dog food is always a challenge and should not be taken lightly. Ask local pet food suppliers for discounted rates. They are often times supportive of people helping out temple dogs. Fundraising is essential to maintain this responsibility.

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## Dog Food example:

15 kilo bag – Bok Dok Gold (24% protein) – Approximately 415-450 baht

1-4 dogs, 1 bag per month

5-10 dogs, 2 bags per month

## Emergencies

**F**irst Contact - If a Hand to Paw volunteer encounters or receives information regarding one of their temple dogs in distress (road accident, poisoning, other injury or sickness) and they cannot give aid (financial or medical) on their own and wishes Care for Dogs to become involved, they should call Care for Dogs immediately to discuss a plan of action.

Although CfD we would like to take them all in, due to the high number of rescue cases, Care for Dogs can only take the most urgent cases into the shelter. Alternative solutions can be discussed that best fits each case.

To be most effective and helpful, the volunteer should find out all relevant details linked to the animal, including its name, location, who found it, what temple and what monk is the liaison (plus a phone number), and details regarding illness/accident (when did it occur, what have the symptoms been, etc). This will greatly assist Care for Dogs when reviewing the case.

Within reason and financial ability, Care for Dogs will do its best to treat injured or sick animals until they recover. Although Care for Dogs is a “No Kill Shelter, there will be times when an animal is too sick (advanced distemper) or in too much pain (broken back) and we will opt to compassionately euthanize the dog.

The ill or injured dog will be returned after recovery to its original location. This, ultimately, is where the animal feels most at home, therefore, it is vital for Care for Dogs to know which temple the animal came from.

**M**edical Treatment - An agreed course of action will be discussed and if the volunteer is able to assist with the transportation of the animal to a vet themselves, they should keep Care for Dogs informed of progress, assessment and findings before agreeing to any expenditure or action by the veterinarian.

With respects to treatment, it is possible that a volunteer or outreach program may wish to go above and beyond care that CfD, as a non-profit shelter, can financially agree to. If such a situation arises and the volunteer or outreach is able and willing to sponsor a dog's full treatment, then the volunteer will become the decision maker, and will be responsible for the dog's place to stay for recovery, the aftercare and return.

**Note:** If you do not reside in Chiang Mai, you must devise an emergency and medical treatment course of action. It is advised that this be documented and put into place before you start your outreach program so that in the event of an emergency you are fully capable of implementing your course of action. Every outreach program will have its own attributes; therefore, a standard emergency guideline cannot be advised.

Things to consider when implementing an emergency course of action:

- Can your outreach program actually assist with emergencies (financially, physically, fostering)?
- Does anyone in your outreach program have experience with basic animal care?
- Agree on a direct hotline number between the liaison monk and the outreach coordinator in the event of an emergency.
- Transportation (does the outreach program have a car, will you use other means)?

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- Will the outreach volunteers be the ones to take the sick or injured animal to the vet or will the monks take the dogs and be reimbursed with outreach funds?
  - Find a local vet that is capable of handling emergencies (X-ray machine, blood tests, over-night stay, etc.). Give both the monk liaison and selected volunteers this vet's number and address.

## **Transportation**

It is highly recommended that one leading member of Hand to Paw has an automobile or truck. A private vehicle helps with the transporting of supplies and making emergency and routine vet visits which helps to overcome many transport issues. In the event that no one in your program has a vehicle research will need to be done in your local community on available songtaews, motorcycle taxi, taxi or other means to transport animals at a moments notice. Most drivers of these vehicles have phone numbers that you can contact them at any time. Keep these numbers readily available.

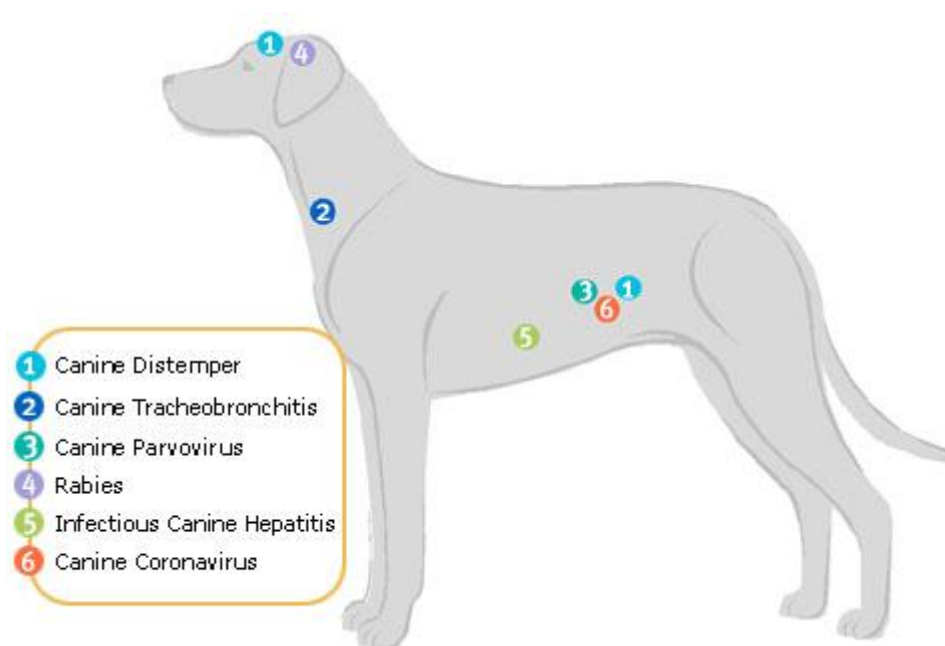
### **School transport**

Every school has its own transportation guidelines. Some can provide a van or other transport to a local temple at no charge or a low cost. They are often times worked into the school's afterschool program budget. Transport availability often times will curtail the amount of students that can partake in the program! A plan needs to be implemented on how your students will get from the school to the temple and within an allotted timeframe. Walking and riding bikes are also great options for temples close to the school.

## Basic Health Care

### Dog Disease and Illness Definitions

Below is just a few of the very common diseases that can be found with temple dogs. It is important for the students to log the health of each dog after every temple visit as this helps to determine if you witness any changes in appetite, weight, energy... Having one student be the caretaker of one dog assures that no dogs goes overlooked. Immediate veterinary attention should be given if symptoms appear abnormal or there is cause for concern. Such illnesses as tick fever can be fatal within 48 hours if not immediately attended to.



### Canine Distemper

#### What is distemper?

Distemper is a highly contagious, hard-to-treat viral disease. It causes a fatal disease that starts with respiratory signs and ultimately causes seizures and death. Vaccination for this disease is essential in Thailand.

#### How is the disease spread?

The virus is spread primarily by direct contact to a susceptible dog from a dog with the disease. Coughing can spread the virus over short distances. The discharge from the nose is heavily laden with the virus

#### What are the clinical signs?

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As with many infections, the clinical signs can vary from one dog to the next. The main signs are fever, loss of appetite, diarrhea and vomiting, a thick yellow discharge from the nose and eyes, coughing; convulsions and paralysis may occur in the diseases final stages.

### **Are there other diseases causing similar signs?**

There are many diseases that cause coughing, fever, loss of appetite, or seizures. However, this combination is unique to canine distemper. If the diagnosis is in doubt, a blood test can be performed for confirmation.

**There is also a special snap test to determine distemper that gives immediate results.**

### **What is the treatment?**

As with most viral infections, there is no drug that will kill the virus. Antibiotics are used because many secondary bacterial infections occur. Intravenous fluids, cough suppressants, and drugs to control seizures may be used. Intensive nursing care is essential. This is best accomplished with the dog in the hospital. Quarantining the dog is advised.

### **Do dogs recover completely from this disease?**

Usually, but not always. Early detection plays a major role in the outcome. Some may be left with persistent nervous twitches (chorea) and recurrent seizures.

### **How can I prevent a dog from becoming infected?**

A very effective vaccine is available to protect dogs against distemper. It can be given to puppies, as young as 5 weeks of age. Annual re-vaccination is strongly recommended.

### **How can I disinfect the temple area where dog lives?**

Since the virus is difficult to kill, most disinfectants are not effective. Veterinarians, shelters, and rescue organizations recommend that disinfecting is best accomplished by cleaning food bowls, water bowls, and other contaminated items with a solution of one cup of chlorine bleach in a gallon of water (33 ml in 1 liter of water). It is important that chlorine bleach be used because most virucidal disinfectants will not kill the canine parvovirus.

### **How common is distemper?**

Distemper is a world-wide disease, but found quite a bit in Thailand, especially during the winter months. Fortunately, vaccines have been very effective in reducing its incidence to very low levels in cared-for dogs. Street dogs can be a source of the virus, as can skunks, ferrets, and raccoons.

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## **Canine Parvovirus Infection (CPV)**

### **What is Canine Parvo?**

Canine parvovirus (CPV) infection is a relatively new disease that struck the canine population in 1978. Spread through infected feces, this very contagious, debilitating and widespread virus can remain in the environment for many months. Vaccination is the only certain method of preventing this potentially fatal disease, which is most severe in young pups and elderly dogs.

### **How does a dog get it?**

The causative agent of CPV disease, as the name infers, is a virus. The main source of the virus is the feces of infected dogs. The stool of an infected dog can have a high concentration of viral particles. Susceptible animals become infected by ingesting the virus. Subsequently, the virus is carried to the intestine where it invades the intestinal wall and causes inflammation.

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Unlike most other viruses, CPV is stable in the environment and is resistant to the effects of heat, detergents, and alcohol. CPV has been recovered from dog feces even after three months at room temperature. Due to its stability, the virus is easily transmitted via the hair or feet of infected dogs, contaminated shoes, clothes, and other objects. Direct contact between dogs is not required to spread the virus. Dogs that become infected with the virus and show clinical signs will usually become ill within 7-10 days of the initial infection.

### **What are the clinical signs?**

The clinical manifestations of CPV disease are somewhat variable, but generally take the form of severe vomiting and diarrhea. The diarrhea may or may not contain blood, but this can be an easy to spot indicator. Additionally, affected dogs often exhibit a lack of appetite, depression, and fever. It is important to note that many dogs may not show every clinical sign, but vomiting and diarrhea are the most common signs; vomiting usually begins first. Parvo may affect dogs of all ages, but is most common in dogs less than one year of age or with low immune systems. Young puppies less than five months of age are often the most severely affected and the most difficult to treat.

### **How is it diagnosed?**

The clinical signs of CPV infection can mimic other diseases causing vomiting and diarrhea; consequently, the diagnosis of CPV is often a challenge for the veterinarian. The positive confirmation of CPV infection requires the demonstration of the virus in the stool or the detection of anti-CPV antibodies in the blood serum. Occasionally a dog will have parvovirus but test negative for virus in the stool; fortunately, this is not a common occurrence.

A tentative diagnosis is often based on the presence of a reduced white blood cell count (leukopenia). If further confirmation is needed, stool or blood can be submitted to a veterinary laboratory for the other tests. The absence of a leukopenia does not always mean that the dog cannot have CPV infection. Some dogs that become clinically ill may not necessarily be leukopenic. **There is also a special snap test to determine distemper that gives immediate results.**

### **Can it be treated successfully?**

There is no treatment to kill the virus once it infects the dog. The virus does not directly cause death; rather, it causes loss of the lining of the intestinal tract. This results in severe dehydration, electrolyte (sodium and potassium) imbalances, and infection in the bloodstream (septicemia). When the bacteria that normally live in the intestinal tract are able to get into the blood stream, it becomes more likely that the animal will die.

The first step in treatment is to correct dehydration and electrolyte imbalances. This requires the administration of intravenous fluids containing electrolytes. Antibiotics and anti-inflammatory drugs are given to prevent or control septicemia. Antispasmodic drugs are used to inhibit the diarrhea and vomiting that perpetuate the problems.

Quarantining the dog is advised.

### **What is the survival rate?**

Most dogs with CPV infection recover if aggressive treatment is used and if therapy is begun before severe septicemia and dehydration occur.

### **Can it be prevented?**

The best method of protecting a dog against CPV infection is proper vaccination. Puppies can receive a parvo vaccination as part of the multiple-agent vaccine given 5-6 weeks. In some situations, especially in Thailand, an additional vaccine after two weeks is recommended. An additional combo vaccine

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booster at 18 to 20 weeks of age is also recommended. After the puppy series of vaccinations, all dogs should receive a booster at least once a year.

### **Is there a way to kill the virus in a temple environment?**

The stability of the CPV in the environment makes it important to properly disinfect contaminated areas. Since the panleukopenia virus is difficult to kill, most disinfectants are not effective. Veterinarians, shelters, and rescue organizations recommend that disinfecting is best accomplished by cleaning food bowls, water bowls, and other contaminated items with a solution of one cup of chlorine bleach in a gallon of water (33 ml in 1 liter of water). It is important that chlorine bleach be used because most virucidal disinfectants will not kill the canine parvovirus.

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## **Rabies**

Although I have never heard of a case of rabies in Thailand, it is mandatory to vaccinate temple dogs against this disease prior to students working with them for their own protection and parents' sense of security.

### **What is rabies?**

Rabies is a disease caused by a virus that attacks the brain. It can affect any warm-blooded animal, including dogs and humans. It is almost always fatal.

### **What are the signs?**

There are three stages of the disease. The first is the "prodromal" phase in which there is a marked change in temperament. The quiet dog becomes agitated, and the active dog becomes nervous or shy. Other signs include dilated pupils, excessive drooling, and snapping at imaginary objects. After 2-3 days, the second phase begins. It is called the "excitatory" phase. There is an exaggerated response to any stimulus. Dogs may experience bizarre changes in appetite including eating and swallowing sticks, stones, and other objects. The dog may roam aimlessly, inflict trauma upon itself, and have a change in voice. There will often be vicious, aggressive behavior, even towards his guardian. Seizures may occur. Sometimes there is a third form, the "dumb" form, in which the dog becomes extremely depressed. His mouth may gape open with the tongue protruding. A progressive paralysis sets in resulting in total body paralysis.

### **What happens next?**

Ultimately, the dog dies. Although a few, rare dogs have survived rabies, these are clearly exceptional cases.

### **How do I know if a dog has rabies?**

There are a number of diseases which can cause some of the signs of rabies. A few conditions can be very similar. Confirmation of rabies can only be made with special tests performed on brain tissue. This requires that the dog be euthanized and its head sent to a special diagnostic laboratory.

### **Can I catch rabies?**

Yes. But rabies is only transmitted by the bite of a rabid animal to another mammal. But even then, the virus is present in saliva of the infected animal for a limited time. However, if you are bitten by any animal of which you do not know the rabies vaccination status, you should immediately wash the wound thoroughly with soap and water. Try to establish who owns the animal and whether the dog is currently vaccinated for rabies. In any case, seek the advice of your physician. Post-exposure rabies treatment with serum or vaccine may be recommended. This is very successful when begun quickly.

### **Should temple dogs be vaccinated?**

Absolutely. Rabies vaccines are very safe and very effective. Vaccination will provide a dog with much greater resistance to rabies if he is exposed to the disease, but you must be aware that there is no cure once it occurs.

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For this reason, many municipalities absolutely require that all dogs receive rabies vaccinations on a regular basis. Vaccination for rabies is usually performed at three to four months of age, and then every year thereafter.

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## **Canine Ehrlichiosis – E-Canis**

If you are working with street or temple dogs you will find this is the most common cause of illness and death. You must be vigilant in recognizing the early signs and symptoms of this endemic disease. From experience, we have found that a normal blood test does not always show the presence of this parasite. A snap test is recommended. It costs more, but can save a life if treated early.

### **What is canine ehrlichiosis?**

Ehrlichiosis is an infectious disease of dogs, commonly referred to in Thailand as “tick disease”. The organism responsible for this disease is a rickettsial organism; rickettsiae are similar to bacteria. There is no vaccine to prevent this disease, but a blood parasite test can determine if the dog is infected and treatment can be initiated.

### **How does a dog get infected with ehrlichia?**

Ehrlichiosis is transmitted to dogs through the bite of infected ticks and can be potentially life threatening. Ticks are ever present in Thailand and a continual battle for dogs that live in temples.

### **What are the signs of ehrlichiosis?**

Signs of ehrlichiosis can be divided into three stages: acute (early disease), subclinical (no outward signs of disease), and chronic (long-standing infection).

**Acute:** Generally, in the acute phase of illness, 1-4 weeks post infection, the dog may present with a flu-like illness. Fever, lethargy, depression of appetite, weight loss, pale gums, runny nose and eyes, diarrhea and/or lameness may be present. **A bluish/purplish cast** to the eyes is often an indicator, but not always present. The dog may act like it is very painful to be touched and will yelp when picked up or when played with. The laboratory profile will be variable, showing decreased red blood cells and increased white blood cells (WBC) and/or platelets. Alkaline phosphatase (liver enzyme) may be elevated. Immunologically competent dogs may be able to eliminate the infection without treatment; however, antibiotic therapy (Doxicycline) is very effective during this stage of illness and is recommended to completely eliminate the organism.

**Sub-clinical:** Untreated, the disease may move into the sub-clinical phase. The dog's body weight normalizes and laboratory abnormalities may be quite subtle. Thrombocytopenia (low platelets) may or may not be present. This phase of disease can last for months or years as long as the dog is not subjected to something that causes undue stress. The parasite is essentially living with the host in stasis; not overpowering the dog's immune system.

**Chronic:** However, if this balance is disturbed by environmental conditions, concomitant infections (combination of diseases), immuno-deficiency, splenectomy, surgery, stress, excessive work, pregnancy, immunosuppressive therapy (including corticosteroids like Prednisone), the organism can gain the upper hand and the dog enters the chronic stage of illness. Because the organism is possibly sequestered in an organ or organs (bone marrow, spleen, liver, etc.), it is harder to treat effectively. Immune capabilities are impaired (like ability to make antibodies). Sometimes, when a dog has entered the chronic stage of tick disease, there is no form of effectual treatment and death can occur.

### **How is ehrlichiosis diagnosed?**

It may be difficult to diagnose infected dogs during the very early stages of infection. The immune system usually takes 2-3 weeks to respond to the presence of the organism and develop antibodies. Since the presence of antibodies to Ehrlichia canis is the basis of the most common diagnostic test, such dogs may be infected yet test negative. Testing performed a few weeks later will reveal the presence of antibodies and

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make confirmation of the diagnosis possible. Although blood tests are the most common form of testing, a specific “**snap**” test for the presence of blood parasites is recommended. This test is more costly (600-650 baht) than a blood test (300-350 baht), but provides an accurate diagnosis.

### How is ehrlichiosis treated?

Dogs experiencing severe anemia or bleeding problems may require blood supplements or a blood transfusion, initially. This does nothing to treat the underlying disease.

### Doxicycline Treatment for E-Canis

Drugs in the tetracycline family are the first choice to rid the dog of the organism that causes ehrlichiosis.

- **Doxicycline** (a semisynthetic tetracycline) at 5-10 mg/kg of dog's weight (2.2 pounds = 1 kg), once or twice a day given 12 hours apart for 6 - 8 weeks. (A vet's dosage is recommended)
  - Do not give Doxicycline on an empty stomach. Administer the medicine with food or 30-60 minutes after the dog has eaten. Wrapping the pills in piece of food often helps alleviate the upset stomach. Tablet form is easier on a dog's stomach than capsule form.
- Highly recommended that the dog receive **Imidocarb** (IMIZOL) injections by a qualified vet 2 times at a two week interval. This is an intramuscular (IM) injection, therefore, a vet is needed if you are unable to administer.
- **Atropin** should be administered by the vet prior to the Imidocarb injection. Imidocarb pretreatment with atropine may lessen anti-cholinergic adverse effects (salivation, serous nasal discharge, and diarrhea)
- If the dog is anemic and receiving blood supplements, this **should not** be given at the same time as the Doxy. If Doxy is being given in the morning and evenings, give the blood supplement tablets during the lunch period.

*It is less expensive to purchase Doxicycline (tablet form only) from a pharmacy rather than purchasing from the vet.*

Sometimes more than one course of therapy is necessary. Doxicycline should not be given with food (milk or yogurt) or supplements containing calcium iron or magnesium (like antacids) because these agents will interfere slightly with the absorption of the antibiotic.

### What is the prognosis?

Dogs with competent immune systems will usually recover, although they remain susceptible to re-infection. Dogs with weak immune systems and those which have progressed to the terminal stages of infection (renal failure) have a guarded prognosis.

### Can anything be done to prevent it?

Ridding the dog's environment of ticks (shrubs and low grass) is the most effective means of prevention, but not always possible in a temple environment. Regular spraying of Frontline® or similar tick and flea spray is highly recommended. It is important to get the product down to the skin of the dog, rather than just soaking the coat with the spray. Use rubber gloves and wash hands immediately after applying the spray. Bi-weekly sprayings during tick season will keep the dogs protected. If dogs are difficult to hold and spray a Frontline Topspot® (liquid applied between the shoulder blades) is a good option, although more costly. Thailand does make a generic, less expensive alternative that can be purchased at the vet or pet supply shop.

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Monthly injections of .3cc/10 kg of Ivermectin can be used for tick and flea prevention. Bathing with tick and flea shampoo is highly recommended, 1-2 times per month (SEE [Tick and Flea prevention](#)).

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## Hepatitis

A highly contagious viral disease causing liver failure, eye damage and breathing problems, the course of this disease can range from mild to fatal. Vaccination remains the best protection. It is spread only among dogs by contact with secretions, such as saliva, infected urine or feces and is not related to human hepatitis. Symptoms range widely, from mild to severe, and include nausea, vomiting, loss of appetite, jaundice, light-colored stool, and stomach enlargement. Its symptoms are similar to those of the early stages of distemper.

The combination vaccine will prevent Hepatitis and should be given yearly.

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## Leptospirosis

Dogs become infected by leptospire when abraded skin comes into contact with the urine of an infected host. The organisms quickly spread through the bloodstream leading to fever, joint pain, and general malaise which can last up to a week. The organism settles in the kidneys and begins to reproduce, leading to further inflammation and then kidney failure. Depending on the type of leptospire involved, other organ failure (especially liver) can be expected as well. Leptospirosis is a life-threatening disease.

The combination vaccine will prevent Leptospirosis and should be given yearly.

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## Kennel cough viruses

Just as with the human common cold, this respiratory-tract infection is easily transmitted from one dog to another, so vaccination is imperative if a dog will come in contact with many other dogs such as a temple environment. Caused by various airborne bacteria and viruses, including Canine Parainfluenza virus, Canine Adenovirus Type II and *Bordetella Bronchiseptica*, you'll first notice its onset by your dog's dry, hacking cough. These virus are **highly infectious** and cause disease in the major bronchi and trachea resulting in a loud, dry, nonproductive cough. Although, this is a very annoying disease and should be treated it rarely is fatal.

If you have one temple dog with kennel cough, you will find you will soon have others infected very quickly.

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## Demodectic Mange

**M**ange is a parasitic skin disease caused by microscopic mites. The demodectic mite resides in the hair follicles. Although both types of mites share some similar characteristics, there are also important differences. It is important not to confuse the two types of mange because they have different causes, treatments, and prognoses. As skin ailments are so prevalent in temple dogs we recommend immediate attention by obtaining a skin scrap by your local vet for proper diagnosis. This not only will make the individual dogs life better; it will reduce contamination of other dogs and present a healthy looking pack of dogs that reside at the temple.

### What causes demodectic mange?

Demodectic mange, sometimes just called "demodex," is the most common form of mange in dogs. It is caused by the demodectic mange mite, a parasite which lives in the hair follicles of affected dogs. Under the microscope, this mite appears shaped like an alligator with eight (8) legs. All dogs (and many humans) have a few of these mites on their skin. As long as the body's immune system is functioning, these mites cause no harm.

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Demodectic mange most often occurs when a dog has an immature immune system, allowing the mites to grow rapidly. Therefore, this disease occurs primarily in dogs less than 12-18 months of age. In most cases, as a dog matures, the immune system also matures. Adult dogs which have the disease usually have defective immune systems.

### **Does this mean that demodectic mange is not contagious?**

Yes. Since the mite is found on virtually all dogs, exposure of a normal dog to one with demodectic mange is not contagious.

### **Why doesn't the immune system mature correctly in some dogs?**

Development of the immune system is under genetic control. Therefore, an affected dog usually comes from a litter containing other affected puppies. Guardians of litter mates should be put on the alert to watch for it. Because the disease is often due to a genetic defect, affected dogs should not be bred. Also, parents of the affected dog should not be bred again.

Sometimes the disease can occur as a result of treatment of the dog with immunosuppressant drugs including corticosteroids.

### **What does demodectic mange do to the dog?**

Surprisingly, a dog with demodectic mange does not itch severely, even though he loses hair in patches. Areas of bare skin will be seen. The hair loss usually begins on the face, especially around the eyes. When there are only a few patches of hair loss, it is termed "localized demodectic mange." If the disease spreads to many areas of the skin, it becomes "generalized demodectic mange."

### **How is demodectic mange treated?**

The localized form is usually treated with topical medication. The generalized form requires special shampoo and dips and sometimes medication either by injection or by mouth. Shampooing with special medicated, cleansing shampoos helps to flush out the hair follicles prior to dipping or rinsing techniques.

For dogs with generalized demodectic mange, secondary skin infections may represent a complicating factor requiring antibiotic therapy. Dogs with skin infections have very red, inflamed skin. This is the source of the term "red mange." Seek a vet's advice.

## **Ivomec Treatment for Demodectic Mange**

**I**vermectin has been reported to cause life-threatening nervous system toxicity in some breeds. Check online for more details before administering.

Often time dogs are not treated for skin problems as locals believe it is untreatable, do not know what it is, do not want to go near the dog, or unwilling to incur the expense. The treatment is both inexpensive in Thailand and successful. Ivomec is the same medicine used for preventing heartworm, but for mange it is given orally rather than by injection. Ivomec can be damaging to the liver, so remember to consult a vet before any treatment is given. Ivomec is very inexpensive and a large bottle can be purchased for approximately 300 ThB.

For temple dogs we recommend a skin scrap at the local vet to detect the presence of mites and determine the type of mange or to rule out a fungus infection. Daily oral doses of Ivomec are recommended. Ivomec is a bitter tasting medicine and best given to the dog as a tasty treat mixed with their food or mashed up with mackerel or sardines. It can also be administered directly into the dog's mouth with a syringe; fill syringe with recommended Ivomec dosage, fill the remaining syringe with honey or propylene glycol to curb the bitter taste.

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**The recommended dose is 0.6 cc/per 10 kg of Body weight, once a day for 4-6 weeks.** A skin scrap will have to be re-done after this period to check for any remaining parasites. **We recommend the dog get at least one weekly bath with medicated shampoo and Amitraz dip (1 cc/1 liter of water - 3 times at 7 day intervals), if possible.** In dogs with long hair coats, the hair should be clipped to insure good contact of the product with the skin.

As this medicine needs to be administered daily, it is recommended to instruct the liaison monk how to administer. If you feel the monk would not be up to this daily task, speak with staff at Care for Dogs to see if they can take the afflicted dog into their shelter for a temporary period. The dog will be re-homed to the temple after recovery. We also have applied tea tree oil topically with good results during the treatment phase. Have another skin scrap done after the third treatment.

Preparing a week worth of syringes for the monks works best and helps you to monitor that the dog is receiving the required medication.

Closely monitor dogs for early signs of mange. It will appear as a reddish, hairless blotch normally around the face area.

### **What is the prognosis for a dog?**

Treatment of the localized form is generally successful. Treatment of the generalized form is also usually successful. However, if the immune system is defective, neither the mites nor the infection may respond to treatment. We recommend using [tea tree oil](#) as a supportive method of treating facial and body mange.

### **Following successful treatment, is it likely to recur?**

Because the immune system does not mature until 12-18 months of age, a dog with demodectic mange may have relapses until that age. It is important for retreatment to begin promptly to minimize the possibility of developing uncontrollable problems. Demodectic mange may also occur in very old dogs because function of the immune system often declines with age. Dogs who have immune suppression due to illness or medication are also candidates for demodectic mange.

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## **Sarcoptic Mange**

**M**ange is a parasitic skin disease caused by microscopic mites. The sarcoptic mite lives just under the surface of the skin. Although both types of mites share some similar characteristics, there are also important differences. It is important not to confuse the two types of mange because they have different causes, treatments, and prognoses. A skin scrap by your local vet is recommended for proper diagnosis.

### **What causes sarcoptic mange?**

Sarcoptic mange is caused by a mite that burrows just beneath the surface of the skin. It may also crawl around on the skin surface. The mite feeds on material in and on the skin.

### **What does it do to the dog?**

The presence of the sarcoptic mite causes severe itching. The dog will chew and scratch his skin constantly. This leads to the loss of large amounts of hair, especially on the legs and belly. Eventually, the skin will become thickened and will darken due to pigmentation.

### **Is it contagious?**

Sarcoptic mange is highly contagious to other dogs; it is also contagious to humans, and is known as scabies. The dog's bedding should be discarded or if this is not possible, it should be regularly washed

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in hot water with bleach or one of the specific anti-scabies shampoos. Although the mites are not able to complete their life cycle on humans, they will cause quite a bit of itching before they finally die.

### **How is sarcoptic mange diagnosed?**

Diagnosis is made by a skin scraping that is examined under the microscope. If only a small number of mites are present on the dog all skin scrapings may be negative. A presumptive diagnosis is then made because the signs are so suspicious and treatment is commenced without the confirmation of a skin scraping. Age is not a significant factor in sarcoptic mange. Although most common in puppies, it affects dogs of all ages.

### **How is it treated?**

There are several insecticides which are effective against this mite. Various dips and shampoos are available. Bathing should occur weekly for at least 4 weeks, at which time your dog should be reexamined to determine if further treatment is needed. Should bathing not prove effective, injections with a preparation called Ivomectin has proven successful. Your veterinarian will discuss the implications prior to its use. Consult the local vet or contact Care for Dogs to discuss temporary housing during treatment. We recommend using [tea tree oil](#) as a supportive method of treating facial and body mange.

### **Ivomec Treatment for Scarpotic Mange**

Ivomectin has been reported to cause life-threatening nervous system toxicity in some breeds. Check [online](#) for more details before administering.

For temple dogs we recommend a skin scrap at the local vet to detect the presence of mites and determine the type of mange or to rule out a fungus infection.

**The recommended dose is 0.6 cc/per 10 kg of Body weight, injected subcutaneously (under the skin) once a week for 2-4 weeks.** Note: the injection is slightly painful to some dogs if using the low cost Ivomec, but last only 20-30 seconds. **We recommend the dog get at least one weekly bath with medicated shampoo and Amitraz dip (1 cc/1 liter of water - 3 times at 7 day intervals), if possible.** In dogs with long hair coats, the hair should be clipped to insure good contact of the product with the skin.

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### **Tick and Flea prevention**

This will be your Hand to Paw's greatest battle! A rigorous prevention program needs to be put into place. We have had great success within our temples with the following guidelines. Note: Tick infestation can come at a moments notice especially during the rainy season. You can never prepare for this onslaught, just be prepared to safeguard all the dogs to the best of your ability and remove ticks as soon as possible.

It may sound like a lot, but if 1-2 students take one dog, you will find the regimen works quite quickly and quite well.

- Monthly injection of Ivomectin subcutaneously (under the skin). Dosage: 0.3 cc per 10 kg. The monthly injection needs to take place on the same day each month to guarantee complete protection. We highly recommend the more expensive Ivomectin made by Bayer; causes no pain. This also is a Heartworm preventative.

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## Bathing technique

- Bi-monthly or monthly bathing with Tick & Flea shampoo.
- 1 -3 people are recommended to bath one dog.
- Place a secure leash and collar on the dog. Hold one end down with your foot.
- Have a plastic bowl filled with water, pour in some shampoo. Pour a small amount of shampoo along the dogs back; from neck to tail.
- Sponge the shampoo and water onto the dog. Do not use the hose as this scares dogs that are not used to being bathed.
- Massage deeply into the fur and into the skin. Make sure not to miss the paws!
- Rinse - If a dog is scared of the hose, rinse with bowls full of water. If using a hose, use a low setting so as not to frighten the dog. Hold the dog securely by the waist if they appear frightened. Be prepared to get wet!
- Rinse dip with Baytical or \*natural tick & flea rinse (available in some Thai pet shops). We believe this is \*wood vinegar, but have not been able to get a clear answer, but it works effectively. Pour a few bowls over the dog and rub into their fur and skin.
  - Both products can also be used to wash or spray sleeping surfaces where ticks and fleas are prevalent.
  - Baytical dosage - 3 mL Baytical per 5 liter of water
- Dry dog thoroughly to prevent any fungal skin infections. Start at the head and work your way down. Remember to dry each paw!
- Comb through dogs hair thoroughly with a tick & flea comb. Look in each toe, especially underneath the paw pad. Place all ticks in a jar of water, rubbing alcohol or cooking oil.
- If there is a tick infestation at the temple, spray each dog with tick and flea spray.
- Clean ears thoroughly for mites and remove all ticks. To help remove ticks for inside the ear, take a cotton ball dipped in rubbing alcohol and soak the ear. Wait one minute and the tick legs will release more easily. If [mites](#) are present (looks like coffee grounds), place mite drops in each ear. Very contagious to other dogs.
- If a dog is highly infected with fleas, we recommend administering De-worm medication. Fleas cause tapeworm.
- Have dogs with long hair that is infested with ticks and fleas groomed at a pet store. This will not need to be done on a regular basis, but can help to the temple from this predominant tick carrier and prevent any blood parasites from infecting the dog.
- Tick & Flea collar for highly infected dogs. This will also help the ticks from spreading to other dogs if they are the main carriers.
- If you have any dogs that refuse to be bathed, have a monk assist you and place “spot-on” between their shoulder blades. Also, administer one “Heartworm” pill each month. You can

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find them available at pet shops for as low as 40 baht per pill. Also, if tick & flea powder or dry shampoo can be placed on the dog, this is better than nothing.

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## **Skin Problem/ Rash/ Hair loss**

**Dexamethasone Treatment** (This is a steroid drug and should not be administered unless certain of the dog's skin scrap results) Treatment is only for generally healthy dogs (no systemic infections - Dexa lowers the immune system). Advised treatment for all dogs showing rash caused by parasites (tick, flea or other).

(**NOTE:** NOT for dogs that are Demodex positive; first treat Demodex, if needed Dexa after this treatment). In most cases, the rash gets better after the first week. **IMPORTANT:** A simultaneous de-worming must take place (all type of worms, repeated after 2 weeks to catch adults and larvae).

- Start Dexa (1cc/10kg) – subcutaneous injection
  - Plus Ivermectin injection (.3 cc/10kg) in case of rash
  - Plus De-Worm tablet (1 tab/10 kg)
  - after 10 days, **REPEAT** both injections
  - 2<sup>nd</sup> dose of De-worm to be given after 14 days
  - If the skin problem doesn't improve after 2 to 3 weeks (Dexa is long-lasting and takes a while), you can give another injection. After a third injection stop and observe. Sometimes if the rash is really bad and it needs some weeks to respond, but then it suddenly will get better without another shot.
  - After 4-6 weeks – If more needed treatment is needed, a 4<sup>th</sup> injection can be made at this time.
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## **Canine Worms**

**D**ogs are victims of several internal parasites frequently referred to as worms. The most common are the roundworms that infest most puppies (pot-belly appearance) at some time in their young lives and tapeworms that can be a big problem when flea infestations are high.

Most worms live in the soil and are transmitted when the dogs walk through the contaminated area and then groom themselves.

Most worm infestations cause any or all of these symptoms: diarrhea, perhaps with blood in the stool; weight loss; dry hair; general poor appearance; and vomiting, pale gums (anemia).

In a temple environment, whenever I see an underweight dog or a dog infested with fleas, I treat immediately for worms. The symptoms for worms are also similar to e-canis and other diseases, so be observant to see if the problem dissipates after 2 weeks or so. For severe worm infestation a trip to the vet is advised as anemia and other secondary problems will cause prolonged illness.

### **Dosage:**

- Adult – 1 de-worm tablet/10 kg, repeat after one week. Observe and see if the symptoms subside.
  - Puppy – Regardless if the puppy looks if they have worms, we administer “Oral” de-worm/1 cc (syringe)/squirt in his or her mouth, repeat after 1 week
    - If the puppy is covered in fleas, administer ¼ - ½ de-worm tablet depending on the puppy's weight. Repeat after 1 week.
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## Ear Mites

One of the most common ailments you will be treating in temple dogs will be the ear mite. Learn to recognize it and care for it immediately. It is contagious and will spread rapidly amongst the other temple dogs if left untreated. I am a real stickler for ear cleaning of temple dogs and every visit I make to the temple I clean their ears. This is the first lesson I teach students when they become a part of a Hand to Paw program. Always have a bag of medical cotton swabs (small, medium and large sizes sold in pharmacies), ear cleaning solution and one or two forms of mite solution in your first aid kit.

### Ear Mite Solutions:

**Epi-Otic** (made by Virbac) – Expensive, 250-280 baht, but highly effective in cleaning the ear canal, dissolves wax, mite build-up and eliminates other debris,

**Over the counter Mite control drops** – Sold at pet stores and vet clinics, 50-80 baht

**Otocide** – small brown bottle with dropper, effective and inexpensive, 35-50 baht

### Description

- microscopic, invisible to the eye
- highly contagious
- causes intense itching and irritation—can cause ear trauma
- lives on the surface of the skin rather than tunneling into it
- the mite is able to reproduce in the ears and live approximately two months
- with proper treatment, ear mites can be cured

### Clinical Signs

- a dark, coffee ground-like substance will be present in the ear canal
- develops as the mites feed in the ear canal
- the feeding causes irritation and the canals will fill with mite debris and blood

### Treatment

- using a cotton-tipped applicator, take a sample of the debris in the ear canals
- Clean ear canal thoroughly - place several drops of ear cleaning solution in the dogs ear. Let him/her shake her head. Remove all debris and ear wax swab and cotton ball
- If the ears are not properly cleaned, mites can survive the treatment because the wax and debris protects them
- Administer special topical “ear mite” solution/ear drops directly into the ear **EVERY DAY** until ear swab comes out clear.
  - May take several weeks - each animal responds differently, treatments may vary with each dog.
  - If you are unable to administer the drops personally, train the monks how to apply.
- **Severe cases** - Ivomectin Injection. Administer a subcutaneous (under the skin) injection at the back of the neck, consisting of .3 cc of Ivomec/per 10kg. Give one shot every seven days for 3 consecutive doses. Explained differently, that is one shot, wait 7 days, give a second shot, wait 7 more days, and then give a third shot.

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## Transmission or Cause

- Ear mites are passed from one animal to another through close contact
- Mites also can be transmitted through the environment to an animal

## Prevention

- The use of flea sprays, powders, or topical preparations will be necessary to help prevent mites from re-infecting the ears
  - requires proper medical treatment of all animals that have mites, or that have been in contact with animals carrying mites
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## Ear Infections

Ear infection in dogs can be caused by a lot of factors. It could be due to ear mites, bacterial infections, food allergies, unhealthy environments, and improper dog hygiene. Dogs with ear infections often shake their heads and scratch at their ears to the point of causing hair loss and scabs around their ears.

Ear infection in a temple dogs calls for immediate medical attention. While some cases of this disease may heal naturally, veterinarians should be involved in the treatment process. It is essential to treat dog ear infection the moment it starts so as not to worsen the dog's condition.

There are three types of ear infection in dogs – the outer ear infection, middle ear infection, and the inner ear infection. It is easy to know if your dog has an outer ear infection. You'll often see the symptoms of this disease, which is usually characterized by redness, inflammation and foul-smelling wax discharge (yeast infection).

Both the middle ear and inner ear are regarded to be more severe than outer ear infection. These types of ear concerns in dogs require the help of a veterinarian because the condition can easily get worse and are often not curable unless special treatment procedures are carried out.

**Treatment** - A typical treatment will often times be ear drops and possibly antibiotics. The two most common eardrops prescribed are Otomax and Dexoryl. Otomax (good for yeast infections) only needs to be applied once a day and Dexoryl (inner ear infections) will need to be administered twice a day according to the dog's weight. Treatment normally takes 7-10 days. You will need to demonstrate to the monks how to apply the eardrops correctly. If you cannot rely on the monks than you or another volunteer will need to go to the temple everyday to administer the drops.

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## Pyometra

### What is pyometra?

Pyometra is commonly found in female dogs in Thailand due to the fact that it is still common practice for dog owners to have routine hormone injections to prevent pregnancy. This is a very dangerous treatment and often times leads to this fatal disease. If you know of anyone that uses hormone injections, please advise them against this practice and inform them of the dire consequences. Pet owners in Thailand are seldom told these bleak statistics.

In its simplest terms, pyometra is an infection in the uterus. Most cases of pyometra are much more difficult to manage than a routine infection.

Infection in the lining of the uterus is established as a result of hormonal changes. Following estrus (heat), progesterone levels remain elevated for 8-10 weeks and thicken the lining of the uterus in preparation for pregnancy. If pregnancy does not occur for several estrus cycles, the lining continues to

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increase in thickness until cysts form within it. The thickened, cystic lining secretes fluids that create an ideal environment in which bacteria can grow. Additionally, high progesterone levels inhibit the ability of the muscles in the wall of the uterus to contract.

### **Are there other situations that cause the changes in the uterus?**

Yes. The use of progesterone-based drugs can do this. Estrogen will increase the effects of progesterone on the uterus. Drugs containing both hormones are used to treat certain conditions of the reproductive system. In Thailand this is often used as an inexpensive treatment for pregnancy prevention.

### **How do bacteria get into the uterus?**

The cervix is the gateway to the uterus. It remains tightly closed except during estrus. When it is open, bacteria that are normally found in the vagina can enter the uterus rather easily. If the uterus is normal, the environment is adverse to bacterial survival. When the uterine wall is thickened and cystic, perfect conditions exist for bacterial growth. When these abnormal conditions exist, the muscles of the uterus cannot contract properly. This means that bacteria that enter the uterus cannot be expelled.

### **When does it occur?**

Pyometra may occur in young to middle-aged dogs, though it is most common in older dogs. After many years of estrus cycles without pregnancy, the uterine wall undergoes the changes that promote this disease.

The typical time for pyometra to occur is about 1-2 months following estrus.

### **What are the clinical signs of a dog with pyometra?**

The clinical signs depend on whether or not the cervix is open. If it is open, pus will drain from the uterus through the vagina to the outside. It is often noted on the skin or hair under the tail or on bedding and furniture where the dog has laid. Fever, lethargy, anorexia, and depression may or may not be present. Another sign to look for is a distended belly (looks pregnant), but no milking teats have formed.

If the cervix is closed, pus that forms is not able to drain to the outside. It collects in the uterus causing distention of the abdomen. The bacteria release toxins which are absorbed into circulation. These dogs often become severely ill very rapidly. They are anorectic, very listless, and very depressed. Vomiting or diarrhea may be present.

Toxins from the bacteria affect the kidneys ability to retain fluid. Increased urine production occurs, and the dog drinks an excess of water. This occurs in both open- and closed-cervix pyometra.

### **How is it diagnosed?**

Dogs that are seen early in the disease may have a slight vaginal discharge and show no other signs of illness. Most dogs with pyometra are not seen until later in the illness. A very ill female dog that is drinking an increased amount of water and has not been spayed is always suspected of having pyometra. This is especially true if there is a vaginal discharge or an enlarged abdomen.

Dogs with pyometra have a marked elevation of the white blood cell count and often have an elevation of globulins (a type of protein produced by the immune system) in the blood. The specific gravity of the urine is very low due to the toxic effects of the bacteria on the kidneys. All of these abnormalities may be present in any dog with a major bacterial infection.

If the cervix is closed, radiographs (x-rays) of the abdomen will often identify the enlarged uterus. If the cervix is open, there will often be such minimal uterine enlargement that the radiograph will not be

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conclusive. An ultrasound examination can also be helpful in identifying an enlarged uterus and differentiating that from a normal pregnancy.

### **How is it treated?**

The preferred treatment is to surgically remove the uterus and ovaries. This is called an ovariohysterectomy (spay). Dogs diagnosed in the early stage of the disease are very good surgical candidates. The surgery is only slightly more complicated than a routine spay. Most dogs are diagnosed when they are quite ill so the surgery is not as routine as the same surgery in a healthy dog. Intravenous fluids are often needed before and after surgery. Antibiotics are given for 1-2 weeks.

### **What happens if no treatment is given?**

The chance of successful treatment without surgery or prostaglandin treatment is extremely low. If treatment is not performed quickly, the toxic effects from the bacteria will be fatal. If the cervix is closed, it is also possible for the uterus to rupture, spilling the infection into the abdominal cavity. This will also be fatal. Spaying your dog will give her and you years of joyful companionship free from disease and pain.

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## **Transmissible Venereal Tumor (TvT)**

### **What is TvT?**

TvT is a sexually transmitted disease (STD); a contagious, cancerous tumor that is in fact 100% curable. In most cases the tissue around the sexual organs repairs itself albeit sometimes slightly scarred, but the effect on the penis head or other eroded tissues & bones is irreversible.

### **How does this disease affect the dog?**

TvT tumors typically show themselves on the outside of the body after many months of infection.

An infected female will develop the tumor internally in her vulva and this in time will increase in size and show itself like a large sagging bag of blood dripping meat, which will as weeks go by attract flies, their larvae and other dogs. The female will then keep her tail down, become paranoid of anything near her rear end and of course be in severe pain as the tumor eats away at her body.

In the case of a male victim of this awful condition, they may well have a tumor develop on their penis, often at the base and then growing along its length and some develop more tumors at the tip of the penis that eventually preclude the fleshy head from retracting inside the outer skin.

But often, male dogs with TvT suffer tumor growths all over the body, many of them in the head, around the nose and eyes. The tumors literally destroy the thin tissue and bones around the eyes, nose & mouth, causing holes to occur within the mouth breaking through to the nose and also holes out of the head & nose to the surface. Tumors in and around the eyes may also lead to blindness. All these growths cause the dog to suffer not only the pain of the increasing tumors but complications when eating, drinking & breathing.

If a dog is infected with TvT, they can spread it by sharing their body fluids apparently including licking and obviously by coitus.

### **What type of treatment is available for this affliction?**

Sadly the dog is often a homeless wretch wandering the streets being turned away from every door way or place to call their home, either because of the smell, the impact on the other dogs in that area or the unsightly appearance of the dog. Most often in Thailand the dog is left to die a slow death.

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## How Care for Dogs can help

Here in Chiang Mai we are very fortunate to be able to treat TvT cases at the Care for Dogs shelter. A vet is employed on a weekly basis to administer the treatment of Vincristin (chemotherapy) which needs to be carefully injected intravenously.

Depending on the severity of the condition, each dog's length of treatment & therefore stay at the shelter, is different but typically it varies between 2 months and sometimes 4 – 5 months.

The first temple dog named Daisy, who was severely stricken with TvT, was our first rescue and the main cause for starting the Hand to Paw Outreach program.

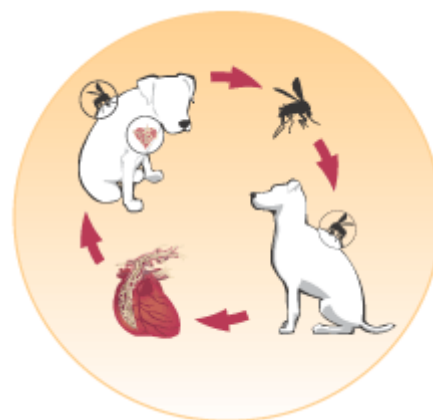
If you see any dog in Chiang Mai or your temple with symptoms of TvT contact Care for Dogs immediately. *As the cost of the treatment can be upwards of 6000 baht, H2P feels it is important to organize special fundraising events to assist with the partial or full payment of the treatment.*

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## Heartworm Prevention

**H**earthworms are the most life threatening parasite dogs can have. The microfilaria (baby heartworms) are deposited in the dog's body by a mosquito bite. These baby worms grow and move to the heart where the damage to a dog's health is done.

Prevention of heartworm disease is very simple. Although several brands of pill form are available, the most affordable option for temple dog prevention is injections of Ivomec. Injections are usually started between 2-3 months of age and the preventative is given every three months for life. Pills can be purchased at local pet stores starting from 40 baht/per pill.



**The recommended dose is 0.3 cc/per 10 kg of Body weight, once every 3 months.** Note: the injection is slightly painful to some dogs, but last only 20-30 seconds. *We recommend the Ivomectin made by Bayer. It costs approximately 750-800 baht/per bottle, but the dog feels no pain during the injection.*

Since heartworms are spread by mosquitoes which are prevalent in Thailand, the preventative must be given all year long. Remember, year-round heartworm protection is as good as your diligence in remembering to give the dogs the recommended medication!

### What are clinical signs?

Symptoms of heartworms do not show up sometimes for years, but early detection by a veterinarian can diagnose the disease before much damage is done. Symptoms include difficulty breathing, coughing, fatigue, listlessness, weight loss and a rough hair coat.

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## Vaccines – Before you begin

**O**ne of the most important things you can do to give a temple dog a chance at a long and healthy life is to ensure that he or she is vaccinated against common canine diseases. Vaccinations are crucial in guaranteeing a healthy and disease free dog. This added protection is often not available to street and temple dogs. If your Hand to Paw program has little resources, we recommend this as a top priority.

In western countries, one often hears of the below diseases and illnesses, but are seldom witness to them in our household pets. But in Thailand with so many dogs roaming the streets, homeless and unprotected it is quite a high chance that you will come across one, if not all of them in your work with temple or street dogs.

### How do vaccines work?

Vaccines contain small quantities of altered or "killed" viruses, bacteria or other disease-causing organisms.

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When administered, they stimulate a dog's immune system to produce disease-fighting cells and proteins - or antibodies - to protect against disease.

### **Which vaccinations should temple dogs receive?**

Temple dogs need to be protected against those diseases which are most common, highly contagious and which cause serious illness. Such diseases include Canine Distemper, Infectious Canine Hepatitis, Canine Parvovirus, Leptospirosis and Rabies. A combination vaccine is available that protects dogs from all of these diseases with one injection.

When administering vaccines, it is important to explain to the students what actually they are vaccinating against. Prior to vaccinating the temple dogs gather the students around and have a brief question and answer session about the below diseases in dogs and what we can do to prevent them. This brings an awareness and connection to the students as to what they are actually doing that day. You will see instantly once they hear about the dreaded diseases they will want to help out the poor things more than ever!

### **How do you keep track of vaccinated dogs?**

Every dog that resides at your temple should have its own vaccination booklet. These booklets can be obtained at any vet clinic or pet supply store where you will purchase your vaccines. A rabies tag will also be given when you purchase any rabies vaccine. Up to date record keeping of each dog is not only helpful to keep your temple organized, but ensures that the rotation of students and volunteers are always up to date on each dog's health. Always have the vaccine booklet available if a dog requires a vet visit.

### **Who will administer the vaccines?**

You will need one qualified volunteer that has been trained to administer vaccinations. Training and hands on experience can usually be done by asking Care for Dogs or your local rescue shelter if you can assist and be trained one day at their shelter. You need to get over any squeamishness as a professional approach will be expected and needed from you. If no one has this type of training, some local Thai vets are sometimes willing to make a short house call to the temple to assist with vaccines for a small fee.

Experienced vaccinators are able to administer vaccines alone, but in most cases administering vaccines is a two person, if not 3-person job. You will need one person to take a firm hold of the dog and the muzzle and the other to give the injection. We prefer to give the injection in the loose skin at between the dog's neck and shoulder blades. If the dog moves his head about too much, you can also inject the dogs hind quarters. Most dogs take their injections well, but there is always the odd case that needs the assistance of the monks to step in as they are more familiar with the animals.

When first starting your Hand to Paw Outreach, the dogs will need to be vaccinated before the students can work with the dogs. I have always found the monks willing to assist in this procedure. You can also bring a friend or recruit another willing adult volunteer.

Vaccines, syringes and needles can be purchased at two pet/veterinary supply shops in Chiang Mai or most vets around town. If you have formed a partnership with Care for Dogs you may qualify to receive a discount from the below vendors. I prefer to buy syringes and needles in a bulk box; it is better value and you always have a supply on hand. Remember that vaccines need to be kept on ice and immediately refrigerated if you are not using them immediately. Check expiration dates before purchasing.

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## **Vaccine Day**

**P**rior to administering vaccines take time to prepare a vaccinating area at the temple. Temples are not the cleanliest of places. If the area you choose needs to be swept, mopped, sterilized with disinfectant, please do so to ensure a healthy environment. Cover any table with a clean towel or cover. I like to take care of many things in one go when we have a vaccine day, as it is a day of group effort and lots of hands on, therefore, ear cleaning, spraying for ticks and fleas and giving de-worm meds are optional tasks you can add to the day.

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For preparation you will need separate stations with the following supplies:

- All vaccine vials (keep on ice or in a cooler) – administer only one type of vaccine at a time so that no confusion in medications is made. Do every vaccine for each dog in the same order. Use a separate syringe and needle for each vaccine. ([SEE REQUIRED DOSAGE](#))
- Syringes & Needles
- Container for disposing of syringes and needles (old plastic or glass food container with a lid works well)
- Vaccine booklets & pens
- De-worm tablets placed in a bit of food ([SEE REQUIRED DOSAGE](#))
- trash can
- ear cleaning solution
- ear swabs
- de-tick spray

Gather students around the table and go over the types of vaccines you will be administering that day. Explain what diseases these vaccines will be preventing. (SEE DISEASE DEFINITIONS)

Explain to the students the progression of events that will take place. Work as if on an assembly line. See if any students are willing to learn how to give an injection. Some students are squeamish and will not want to take part in this task.

Do not be rushed, work in a systematic, organized manner. If students are unable to handle any of the dogs ask a monk to stand by for assistance. Always let the temple be aware of the date you are coming to vaccinate, so that there is always someone on standby.

Assign all students to separate tasks:

- holding the dogs – show proper method of holding a dog
- opening syringe and needle packaging
- filling syringes with vaccine
- administering vaccine – show proper method of administering vaccine
- dispensing safely of used syringes and needles
- adhere vial stickers to vaccine booklets and recording the date. Dogs' name, gender, estimated age and temple needs to be placed on the booklet
- feeding de-worm tablets to the dog
- cleaning ears
- spraying for ticks and fleas

Rotate students after doing a few dogs so that all students can take part in learning a different skill. Have students help with clean up.

**NOTE:** Record your Hand to Paw calendar or planner when the next 3 month heartworm or yearly combo vaccine needs to be scheduled.

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## Vaccine dosage - Adolescent and Adult dogs

- **Combination Vaccine** - Rabies plus Distemper/Parvovirus/Hepatitis/Canine influenza (**Hexadog or similar brand**). Record vaccine date and adhere sticker from vial in the dog's vaccine booklet. Must be kept refrigerated or on ice. **Administer yearly**. Approximate cost 150 ThB.
  - Inject for heartworm (**Ivomectin**) – Dosage – Multiply .03 x dog weight (kg) = dosage amount. (EXAMPLE: .03 x 14 kg = .4 cc dosage). Record injection date in the dog's vaccine booklet. Ivomec does not need to be refrigerated, but is recommended, needs to be stored in a dark, cooled space. **Administer every 3 months**. Approximate cost 250-300 ThB/ Large bottle. 1 bottle has over 100 doses. Ivomec can also be used orally for dogs diagnosed with mange. (SEE HEALTH CARE – monthly injections can be made if using as a tick & flea preventative).
- NOTE:** Ivomec can cause slight pain when injecting the animal. Make sure that the person assisting with the injection has a firm hold on the dog; hold the snout or muzzle the dog. The pain will last 20-30 seconds. Bayer makes a more expensive quality that causes no pain when injected – cost 750-800 baht/per bottle.
- De-worm tablets for tapeworm prevention can be administered if you have the funds available. De-worm pills can be administered wrapped in a bit of food to the dog every 3 months when they receive their heartworm injection. Dosage – 1 tablet/per 10 kilos. Record date in dog's medical log. Approximate cost 10-20 ThB/tablet at pet stores.
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## Puppy Care & Vaccine Dosage

A dog's mother will give her puppy immunity from disease for the first few weeks of existence by providing disease-fighting antibodies in her milk. After that period it's up to the Hand to Paw Outreach to provide that protection. The immunity that a puppy has at birth begins to diminish sometime between 6 and 12 weeks. It is then usually time to begin the initial vaccinations.

It takes a full 14 days after vaccination before you can trust a puppy or adult dog to be fully protected. The vaccine itself does not protect them. The dog must make antibodies of its own.

### All puppies – when you encounter a puppy for the first time:

- Administer de-worm medicine orally (1 cc) with a syringe.
- Re-administer de-worm after 2 weeks (1 cc) – (If the puppy's belly appears distended after the 1<sup>st</sup> dose an additional dose can be administered a week later and continually until all symptoms disappear.)
- Cost of oral de-worm medicine is approximately 50 ThB/small bottle. Does not need to be refrigerated. Log the date of the de-worming on the dog's medical record.

### Puppies under 8 weeks

Do not separate from their mother. If villagers want to take puppies from the temple for their personal pet, please advise them to keep the puppy at the temple during this period. It is very important that the puppy receives its mother's milk for the first 2 months to build up antibodies and promote good bone health and growth development. Also, puppies weaned from their mother prior to 2 months can have adverse social skills.

- If the puppies are dumped on the temple grounds without their mother and appear less than 8 weeks old this simple guideline can help promote the puppy's health and social skill development:
    - Supply monks with puppy natal milk (powder form). Explain how to follow the directions. Approximate cost 120 ThB/ Large bag
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- If the monks are unable to prepare a nourishing meal, have a volunteer visit the temple daily or as often as possible with a nourishing meal of rice, chicken or fish meat, clotted chicken blood, carrots and kale.
  - Many abandoned puppies are terrified and confused. Daily or continued visitation to the puppy will help with its social skills. It can take several weeks or months for a puppy to approach you if it is extremely traumatized. Food is the best source of creating a trust. Continual interaction will also help build a bonding relationship which is helpful for administering future vaccines, bathing, and de-ticking.
  - Puppies are a breeding ground for fleas and ticks. Bathe the puppy with tick & flea shampoo with the first available opportunity. Spray the puppy thoroughly with flea and tick spray (only after 6 weeks). Clean ears for mites and ticks with ear cleaning solution and large Q-tip swabs. Remove by hand any ticks on the puppy's body, ears or in between toes. Continually monitor for re-infestation. Ticks and fleas are the most common carriers of disease and illness for puppies and dogs.
  - **Puppies – 5-6 weeks**
    - Highly susceptible to parvo and distemper, we recommend vaccinating with **Bayovac PUPPY Vaccine**. This is the only vaccine that can be administered to a puppy of less than 6 weeks. Record vaccine date and adhere sticker from vial in the dog's vaccine booklet. Must be kept refrigerated or on ice. Approximate cost 125 Thb/dose.
  - **Puppies – 6-9 weeks**
    - Vaccinate for Distemper/Parvovirus/Hepatitis/ (Tetradog or similar brand – **NO RABIES**). If funding is available, this vaccine can be re-administered again after 2 weeks (Combo vaccine with rabies) to guarantee full protection. Record vaccine date and adhere sticker from vial in the dog's vaccine booklet. Must be kept refrigerated or on ice. Approximate cost 125 ThB/dose.
    - Bathe and spray to de-tick, remove ticks, clean ears
    - Check to see if oral de-worm medicine needs to be given. Puppy's stomach will appear distended and swollen. Dosage – 1 cc with a syringe.
    - Can be separated from mother (2 months and over)
  - **Puppies - 12-15 weeks**
    - Combination Vaccine for **Rabies**-Distemper/Parvovirus/Hepatitis (**Hexadog or simiar brand**). Record vaccine date and adhere sticker from vial in the dog's vaccine booklet. Must be kept refrigerated or on ice. **Administer yearly**. Approximate cost 150 ThB.
    - Inject for heartworm (**Ivomec**) – Dosage – Multiply .03 x dog weight = dosage amount. (EXAMPLE: .03 x 14 kilos = .4 cc dosage). Record injection date in the dog's vaccine booklet. **Administer every 3 months**. Approximate cost 300 ThB/Large bottle. 1 bottle has over 100 doses. Ivomec can also be used orally for dogs diagnosed with mange (SEE HEALTH CARE).
    - **NOTE:** Ivomec can cause slight pain when injecting the animal. Make sure that the person assisting with the injection has a firm hold on the dog; hold the snout or muzzle the dog. The pain will last 30-60 seconds.
    - De-worm tablets for tapeworm prevention can now be administered to puppies if you have the funds available. De-worm pills can be administered wrapped in a bit of food to the dog every 3 months when they receive their heartworm injection. Dosage – 1 tablet/10 kilos. Record date in dog's medical log. Approximate cost 20 ThB/strip of 10 tablets.
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- **Puppies – 5-6 months**

- Spay females. Approximate cost 800-1200 ThB. Record date of sterilization in dog's vaccine booklet. If your program has the resources to neuter the male dogs (approx. 300 baht), please do so. The female dogs should be the first priority to deter over-breeding and sustain the dog population at the temples.
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## **Treating Dog Bites**

Probably the most common ailment you will be treating in a temple is dog bites. Due to the fact that the dogs often time live in large packs with the constant battle for territorial dominance, search for a food source and females in heat can make fighting a daily occurrence in their lives.

The possibility of infection is very high if another dog bites a dog, not least because the saliva in most animals contains large quantities of bacteria and can easily spread a new infection through its bite. A small bite which may not appear particularly bad can seriously damage the tissue within the wound. Ignoring or taking such injuries lightly can have serious consequences on the health of the dog. Each dog at the temple should be inspected for dog bites with a full body search. Irrespective of size, any bite should be examined as quickly as possible, so that if the injury needs treatment infection can be diminished or avoided. Below there are five things that are useful to know:

- If a dog is in pain, its instinct is to growl, snarl or warn you off. No matter how well you may think you know the dog you will not be excluded from this so placing a muzzle on the dog is advisable if he/she reacts in kind. The muzzle will prevent the dog from biting you and protect anyone else who goes near him. A temporary muzzle can be made with a length of cloth, strap or similar material if you don't possess a muzzle. Tie the material around the dog's mouth to keep it closed making sure that he is still able to breathe. If the dog attempts to vomit or appears to have problems with breathing you will have no alternative other than to remove the muzzle immediately. If the dog is still unruly or you are unsure of handling this type of situation, take the dog to the vet to prevent anyone else being injured.
- A smaller dog will not be able to wear a muzzle so wrap the animal in a towel and hold him firmly. At all times, make certain that the dog is able to breathe easily. If the dog is uncomfortable with the towel around him remove it periodically.
- When you are sure the dog is not able to bite you, place a small amount of water-soluble jelly, such as KY, onto the wound. Using a disposable razor, carefully remove sufficient hair from around the bite, to expose the wound. You will then be able to clean the wound and letting air into it will assist with the healing process. Run saline solution or water diluted with Betadine over the wound to clean it and then dry it with some gauze or cotton ball. If the dog has had the bite for more than a day, use antibacterial soap to clean the wound as bacteria may have already entered it. Again rinse with saline solution and dry.

If the wound is deep, fill a syringe with Betadine and squirt into and around the wound to assure you have applied sufficient protection.

- When you are sure that the wound is completely clean and dry, apply an antibiotic cream or Betadine, which can be bought over-the-counter.
- Your temple dogs' inoculations and vaccinations should always be kept up to date, including rabies.

**Note:** Monitor the healing progress of the bite with every visit. If the wound is larger than you can handle or appears to be infected a trip to the vet is advised.

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Always keep on hand a bottle of saline solution, Betadine, cotton balls, KY jelly, razor, and antibiotic cream or spray. Have the caretaker for each dog be responsible for examining their dog with each visit and assisting with cleansing the wound.

**Treatment:**

We recommend keeping 2 supplies in your first aid kit at all times. If a dog has a severe bite this antibiotic and painkiller treatment can be given to the monks to administer.

- 7-day treatments of antibiotics (Cefalexine) 250 mg, 2 times a day (morning/evening)
- 5-day treatments of painkillers (Tramadol) 50 mg, 2 times a day (morning/evening)
- Small plastic containers that a dose of antibiotic cream or Betadine can be dispensed and left with the monks to apply daily to keep the wound clean and free from infection.

## Helpful words & phrases (Thai/English)

1 ½ tablets	<b>Nueng med klueng</b>	hurts (painful)	<b>jep</b>
1 tablet / 1 (2) times	<b>Nueng med / nueng (soong)</b>	I need	<b>Chan tong karn</b>
Abbott	<b>Luang Por</b>	injection	<b>cheet yaa</b>
afternoon	<b>dtown-bai</b>	itchy	<b>kaan</b>
animal	<b>saat</b>	leash	<b>lam</b>
antibiotic	<b>yaa gae abkeb</b>	left	<b>sai</b>
bark	<b>how</b>	leg	<b>ca</b>
blind	<b>dtaa bord</b>	lift up	<b>um</b>
blood	<b>luat</b>	maggot	<b>dtua-non</b>
bone	<b>gra-duuk</b>	male animal	<b>dtua-puu</b>
broken	<b>haak</b>	mange	<b>Kiluean</b>
cage	<b>krong</b>	medicine	<b>Yaa</b>
cancer	<b>Maleeng</b>	Monday	<b>wan jaan</b>
cat	<b>maew</b>	month	<b>duan</b>
clean	<b>tom qwam saa at</b>	morning	<b>dtown-chow</b>
cold/cool	<b>now/yen</b>	needle	<b>chem cheet ya</b>
collar	<b>plawk kor</b>	not healthy	<b>mai sabai</b>
cough	<b>Ai</b>	now	<b>dtown-nii</b>
die	<b>dtie</b>	paralyzed	<b>ama pat</b>
Do you want?	<b>Aow mai</b>	parasite	<b>pa yaat</b>
Doctor / vet	<b>Mor</b>	paw	<b>ung-taao</b>
dog	<b>maa</b>	pill (medication)	<b>yaa</b>
dog bite	<b>maa gat</b>	puppy	<b>Luug – maa</b>
dog food	<b>aharn maa</b>	right	<b>qwa</b>
dying	<b>ja dtie</b>	Saturday	<b>wan sao</b>
ear	<b>Huu</b>	sick	<b>buay</b>
evening	<b>dtown-yen</b>	sleep	<b>laap</b>
every day	<b>tuk wan</b>	sleepy/lethargic	<b>nuai</b>
eye	<b>dtaa</b>	sterilize (spay/nueter)	<b>tam maan</b>
eyes	<b>Taa</b>	Sunday	<b>wan aa tit</b>
Female animal	<b>dtua-mia</b>	tablet	<b>Med</b>
flea	<b>madt (mut)</b>	temple dog	<b>maa Wat</b>
fever	<b>kai</b>	This dog is Joe	<b>Maa tua nii chue Joe</b>
Friday	<b>wan suk</b>	Thursday	<b>wan pa ru hat</b>
fur	<b>kon sat</b>	tick	<b>heb</b>
Go to see the vet	<b>Bpai haa mor</b>	times	<b>Krang</b>
Haircut	<b>gaan dtat kon</b>	Tuesday	<b>wan an kan</b>
happy	<b>mii kwaam suk</b>	tumor	<b>Nuea noog</b>
healthy	<b>sabai dii</b>	unwell / sick	<b>May sabai</b>
Help me	<b>Chuay doay</b>	vaccine	<b>waccine</b>
here	<b>trong nee</b>	Wednesday	<b>wan put</b>
hospital	<b>rong pa-yaa baan</b>	week	<b>a tit</b>
hot	<b>rauwn</b>	worms	<b>Pa yaad</b>
		wound	<b>plaar (like "pear")</b>

## Canine and Feline Normal Blood Work Values

Normal Value	Canine	Feline	Unit
Glucose	65-120	70-120	mg/dl
BUN	6-24	17-30	mg/dl
Creatinine (Kidney)	0.4-1.4	0.6-1.6	mg/dl
Tot. Protein	5.2-7.2	5.3-7.2	g/dl
Albumin	2.5-4.3	2.6-3.9	g/dl
Calcium	9.5-12.0	9.4-11.2	mg/dl
Phosphorus	3.3-6.8	4.0-7.0	mg/dl
Alkaline Phosphatase	20-200	20-220	U/L
GGT	1.2	0-10.0	U/L
AST	10-40	8-35	U/L
LDH	30-190	35-280	U/L
Cholesterol	110-314	90-150	mg/dl
Total Bilirubin	.04-.40	.08-.30	mg/dl
ALT (Liver)	10-70	10-130	U/L
Amylase	200-1290	not valid	U/L
CPK	20-200	20-160	U/L
CO2	17-24	17-24	mEq/L
Triglycerides	20-200	20-100	mg/dl
Direct Bilirubin	0-0.30	0-0.30	mg/dl
Uric Acid	0-2.0	0-1.0	mg/dl
Sodium	140-151	143-153	mEq/L
Potassium	3.4-5.4	3.5-5.2	mEq/L
Chloride	105-120	108-128	mEq/L
Lipase	120-258	120-258	U/L
Globulins	0.9-4.0	1.5-4.0	g/dl
A/G	0.53-3.5	0.56-2.6	
Anion Gap	5-30	5-30	
HgB	120-180	80-150	g/L
Hct	0.37-0.55	0.24-0.45	L/L
RBC	5.5-8.5	5.0-10.0	x10 <sup>6</sup> /ul
MCV	60-77	39-55	fl
MCH	19.5-24.5	13-17	pg
MCHC	32-36	30-36	g/dl
Reticulocytes	0-1.5%	0-1%	0%
WBC	6.0-17.1	5.5-19.5	x1000/ul
Segs	3.6-11.5	2.5-12.5	x1000/ul
Bands	0.0-0.3	0.0-0.3	x1000/ul
Eosinophils	0.01-1.25	0.0-1.5	x1000/ul
Lymphocytes	1.0-4.8	1.5-7.0	x1000/ul
Monocytes	0.15-1.35	0.0-0.85	x1000/ul
Platelets	2-9	3-7	x100000/ul

## Celsius to Fahrenheit Temperature Conversion

Average Temperature for a dog – **100-102.5 F (37.8 – 39.2 C)**

36.7	98.06
36.8	98.24
36.9	98.42
37	98.6
37.1	98.78
37.2	98.96
37.3	99.14
37.4	99.32
37.5	99.5
37.6	99.68
37.7	99.86
<b>37.8</b>	<b>100.04</b>
<b>37.9</b>	<b>100.22</b>
<b>38</b>	<b>100.4</b>
<b>38.1</b>	<b>100.58</b>
<b>38.2</b>	<b>100.76</b>
<b>38.3</b>	<b>100.94</b>
<b>38.4</b>	<b>101.12</b>
<b>38.5</b>	<b>101.3</b>
<b>38.6</b>	<b>101.48</b>
<b>38.7</b>	<b>101.66</b>
<b>38.8</b>	<b>101.84</b>
<b>38.9</b>	<b>102.02</b>

<b>39.0</b>	<b>102.2</b>
<b>39.1</b>	<b>102.38</b>
<b>39.2</b>	<b>102.56</b>
39.3	102.74
39.4	102.92
39.5	103.1
39.6	103.28
39.7	103.46
39.8	103.64
39.9	103.82
40	104.0
41	105.8

### Instructions for Rectal Temperatures

Some dogs will allow you to take their temperature, but are not so keen. If possible, get another person to assist by holding the dog.

- If using a mercury thermometer, shake it until the mercury is below 94 F (34 C).
- Lubricate the thermometer with Vaseline or KY jelly for easy insertion.
- Have your helper hold the head and front part of the body by firmly hugging the dog.
- Lift the tail and insert the thermometer slowly and carefully into the rectum, located just below the base of the tail. Insert the thermometer about 1 inch and hold in place – two minutes for mercury thermometers or until the digital thermometer beeps.
- Remove the thermometer and read the temp.
- Clean the thermometer with cotton ball and rubbing alcohol
- A vet visit is highly recommended for temperature readings over 102.5 F (39.2 C)
- Keep a copy of the temperature conversion chart in your first aid bag.

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## First Aid Kit & Supplies

Emergencies can occur anytime and the best thing to do is be prepared. We recommend a basic first aid kit accompany Hand to Paw volunteers with every visit to the temple. A plastic sealable box or tote bag can be used to carry your supplies. Allow students to be able to access the kit freely during their visit to the temple so that they can administer any basic health care to the dog in their care.

### Priority supply items:

#### Skin

- 1-2 bottles of tick & flea spray
- 1-2 Tick & Flea combs
- **Spot-On** tick and flea treatment (low cost formulas can be found at pet stores/25-80 baht/dose)
- Flea powder (some dogs are not as easily approachable to administer tick & flea spray, this is an alternative option)
- Dry Dog Shampoo (for dogs that do not like bathing)
- Tweezers (tick removal)
- Dog brush and metal comb
- 1-2 glass jars filled with rubbing alcohol, water or cooking oil (dispose of ticks)
- Scissors (trimming facial hair or bite wounds)
- Razorblade (trimming bite wounds)
- Bottle of saline solution (cleaning wounds)
- Betadine/povidone-iodine (topical antiseptics for dog bites and other wounds)
- 1-2 bags of cotton balls
- Antibiotic cream (over the counter brand)
- Antibiotic spray (optional – good substitute if a dog will not let you apply cream)

#### Natural skin products

- Virgin Coconut Oil (optional)
  - **Topical use** - Dogs' ear infections improve, as do flea allergies, contact dermatitis, and other skin irritations. It's also been shown to help get rid of moles, heal sores and condition the dog's dry cracked feet pads.
  - The oil can be applied to sores. It is slow absorbing so try to keep the dog occupied for several minutes after applying it. Try it on hot spots, sore foot pads, minor bites or even to clean ears.
  - **Orally** - Coconut oil will deodorize anything it touches and will make your dog smell better when it's fed to him. It improves digestion and nutrient absorption. It can be feed alone or mixed in dog food. Start very slow. Work up to a teaspoon a day for each 9 kg/20 lb of body weight. The oil will help detox the system so it's important to go slow and over several weeks work up to the full dosage.
- **Tea tree oil** (optional – a natural antiseptic good for skin treatments (mange), wounds, mites and removing ticks)
  - Washing a dog using a mild soap and water, soak a cotton puff with tea tree oil (diluted) and saturating specific areas twice daily will help treat **mange**. For overall application, mixing 1 teaspoon tea tree oil with 1/3 cup of water and spraying the mixture from a plant mister onto the mangy areas. **When using tea tree oil for animals, it should always be diluted.**
  - For **mites**, use 10 drops in a tablespoon of water. Then take a small eyedropper and squirt a dropperful in one ear at a time, instantly covering the opening with the ear flap and a towel to avoid it being shaken on or around the animal. You can also use olive or coconut oil

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instead of water which will "stick" better to the ear. Spend at least a full minute massaging the ear to keep the animal from shaking it all out before it gets into the ear canal and begins doing its work. Massage as long as you can because it could be a one administration event if you can keep it all in there for 3 - 5 minutes.

### Bathing Station Supplies

- Tick and flea shampoo (dilute to 1/2 water – 1/2 shampoo)
- Medicated *Malassezia* shampoo for dermatitis, mange, fungal infections and skin allergies
- Bayticol or natural rinse dip (added tick & flea prevention)
- 2-3 m length of lawn hose (many temple do not have a hose for bathing dogs)
- Hose attachment (a multi-purpose attachment that can adjust to fit any spigot)
- Large plastic tub (helpful when bathing puppies and Tick & Flea rinse dip)
- Old towels (for holding dogs and bathing)
- sponges
- plastic bowls (fill with water - for applying shampoo to dog)
- Leashes (can be found inexpensively at local markets)

### Ears

- Ear cleaning solution
- Ear mite solution
- Long cotton swabs for ear cleaning (small, medium and large size) – **Do not use Q-tips**
- cotton balls

### Eyes

- Broad spectrum Eye drops for dogs(optional - for basic eye injuries or infection)
- Eye cleaning solution

### Optional Supplies

- Digital or mercury thermometer
- Surgical scissors (for removing stitches after sterilizations)
- Several wash towels (clean wounds)
- Assorted plastic containers (mix antiseptic solutions, dog food bowls, discard used syringes and needles)
- Old or used weigh scale (document dogs weight in the Info Binder)
- Box of disposable rubber gloves
- Muzzle or length of cloth or strap for a muzzle
- Assorted collars (can be found inexpensively at local markets)
- Can of dog food (nice to have on hand if any medication needs to be administered)
- Plastic bags (to dispose of trash)
- Vaccine record booklets (Should be kept with the medical kit at all times in the event a dog needs to go to the vet.)
- Anti-bacterial hand soap (wash hands)
- Anti-bacterial hand gel (wash hands)
- Dish soap (wash dog bowls)
- Small bottle of bleach (sanitize dog bowls)
- Sponges (wash dog bowls)
- Dog collars (shows the dog is owned and cared for by someone)
- Chain dog collar (able to control dog better and prevents collar slipping off the head – can be used for bathing, vaccinations or transporting dog to the vet). Bok Dok makes a cloth-type retractable collar – available at Big C.

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### On hand medical supplies (optional):

- 2 supplies dog bite treatment - Antibiotic (Cefalexine) & painkillers (Tramadol)
- Betadine (Note: Buy a large bottle and refill small plastic bottles with a syringe)
- Bottle of oral de-worm medicine for puppies
- De-worm tablets for adult dogs (10-20 baht/tablet)
- Antibiotic cream
- Anti-fungal cream
- Antihistamine tablets (Hydroxyzine – 10 or 25 mg)
- “Otomax” for ear infections
- Bottle of Ivermectin (heartworm, tick & flea prevention, mite and mange treatment) (Need to be kept refrigerated. Take to the temple, when needed, in a bag of ice or cooler)
- Large bottle of Doxycycline for blood parasite diseases (cost effective)
- Small plastic containers to dispense antibiotic or anti-fungal cream
- Small supply of vaccines kept at supervisor’s home (Need to be kept refrigerated. Take to the temple, when needed, in a bag of ice or cooler)
- Box of syringes (3 mg, 1 mg for puppy or small dog Ivermec injections) Box of needles (23 gauge for average dog, 24-25 gauge for small dog, 26 gauge for puppy)

### Veterinary Care

A good open relationship with a vet is extremely important. Treat them with respect and appreciation and you will find someone supportive, sympathetic and helpful to your cause. Unfortunately, not all vets in Thailand view all dogs as equals, therefore, only consider vets that are unbiased towards temple dogs.

In some locations in Thailand, vets may offer your Hand to Paw program a discount for some or all treatments. Many temples are located in rural locations with no vet clinics available, but it still advisable to seek out and find the nearest veterinarian or rescue shelter and set-up a telephonic relationship where they can assist and advise treatment from a distance.

If possible, seek out at least two or three low cost veterinarians and establish a good working relationship with them. If you do not speak Thai, it is paramount to find a vet that speaks English so that no confusion or misunderstandings in treatment and diagnosis occur. Once you have established a relationship with your vets you will often find that they will offer free advice, consultation, and medical dosages by telephone in times of need.

You will need to find both a clinic and full range animal hospital for emergency or specialty procedures. Remember, emergencies at a temple can happen quiet suddenly and you do not want to be left at the last minute without options. Learn to know what procedures can and cannot be preformed by each vet (i.e. sterilizations, skin scrapes, poisonings, X-ray, ultrasound, blood work, etc.)

Also, most vets in Thailand follow a strict Buddhist belief and will not euthanize an animal even in the event of debilitating illness (advanced distemper), suffering or inoperable injury. Find out what your vets view is on this subject and what you would do if such a circumstance should arise.

If a dog is terminally ill and the temple monks cannot look after or provide a comfortable and safe environment for them, consider finding a foster home to provide the best quality of life possible while the dog lives out the last of his or her days.

When it is necessary to have surgical procedure or sterilization preformed you will be asked whether you want pre-surgical diagnostics on the dog. We often forego this for sterilizations because of the expense. We leave the decision up to the vet’s discretion depending on their age and health for other surgical procedures.

If your Hand to Paw program cannot afford the recommended care, find out what alternatives are available and what they cost. Call Care for Dogs for advice and recommendations. If a long term hospital stay is

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required, ask the vet for options. We had one dog that required 5 weeks in hospital and they only charged us 100 baht per day as long as we provided the food. Once you have established yourself as a temple dog caretaker, no matter what the issue, proper veterinary care becomes your responsibility.

## Local Vets

**N-do Animal Hospital** (North of Chiang Mai city center – **middle Ring Road** near the city prison and City Hall/Hwy 107 intersection – Large purple sign)

\*Highly recommended: Dr. Nappawan & Dr. Nopporn

128 Ring Road, Chang Phuek, Muang, Chiang Mai

Tel: 053 890 797, 081 603 2419

Facilities: Open M-F 9:00-21:00 - X-Ray machine, Speak fluent English, operating theater, will euthanize last stage terminal or severely injured animals

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**Chiang Mai-Maerim Animal Hospital** - North of Chiang Mai city center on Hwy 107, directly across from Lanna Golf Course.

84/17-18 Chotana Rd (Hwy 107), Chang Phuek, Mueng, Chiang Mai 50300

Tel: 053-408 368, 053-220478, 089-633 7670

Facilities: Open 24 hours, English speaking doctors, ambulance, X-Ray machine, EKG, operating theater

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**Dr. Pat's Veterinary Clinic** – 10 km North of Mae Rim – on Hwy 107 direction Mae Taeng - left side

Recommended

Tel: 083-946 5609, 053-465 609

Facilities: Open 08:00-20:00 (Closed Wednesday), English speaking doctor, full range clinic, Grooming, microscope, operating theater for minor treatments

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**Changnoi Vet Clinic** – Chiang Mai City - Located on Chonpratan Rd (Canal Rd), near Small Animal Hospital (same side)

\*Highly Recommended – Dr. Chatchawan Sriwichai (Dr. Pop) – Faculty of Veterinary Medicine CM University

Chonpratan Rd, Suthep, Mueang Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai, 50200

Tel: 053-948 031, 083-948 2244, 089-700 6463

Facilities: Open M-F, 17:00-20:00, Weekends, 9:00-17:00 (Call ahead), English speaking doctor, **specializes in canine eye problems & diseases**, full range clinic, microscope

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**Ban Mha Ka Maew Animal Hospital** – South side of Chiang Mai City - Corner of Chiang Mai Land road on the Superhighway (Mahidol)

255/10-12 Mahidol, Pa Daet, Mueang Chiang Mai, Chiang Mai 50100

Tel: 053 -205 155

Facilities: M-S 9:00-20:00, Sun 9:00-18:00, English speaking doctors, grooming, full range hospital, operating theater

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## Medical & Pet Supply stores in Chiang Mai:

**Nakorn Ping** (2 locations: Suthep Road near Nimmanhaemin cross road or Hwy 107 just past Superhighway intersection, left hand side traveling towards Mae Rim)

**Pet Mart** (Canal Road just before Night Safari turnoff, left hand side traveling towards Hang Dong)

Tel: 081-716 7044, 053-838 338

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## Finances

### Treasurer

To have any type of accountable software program that tracks the financial side of your Hand to Paw project is optional, but highly recommended. Personally, I feel if anyone donates on behalf of a temple outreach program that some form of accountability needs to be in place. Not only will accurate record keeping keep your program legitimate in the eyes of supporters, but will also help you to keep track of your operational expenses; income/donations, expenses (i.e. vaccines, sterilizations, medication, etc.), and most importantly, future budgeting and program reflection can be managed with software generated reports (i.e. how many sterilizations were carried out in one year, how many donations come in for a year, etc.).

There are many inexpensive and easy to use software programs on the market. Keep it simple, but make sure to set up all the categories prior to inputting data. I like to make one expense category called “Pet Care” and sub –categories under this to include vaccines, food, supplies, vet visit, sterilization, medicine, etc. Another expense categories is “Marketing”, with sub-categories being supplies, T-shirts, banners, etc.

An easy method is to keep all receipts in a small pouch. If no receipt is given make sure to immediately write an expense or donation on a small slip of paper with date, amount and any other pertinent information. At the end of the month balance your account by entering the data into your software program. Verify that the bottom line matches your remaining donation income.

### Donations

Donations can come in all forms, monetary, food, supplies (blankets, towels, collars, etc). These donations are a gift of support and should be treated with respect and honesty. Donations will be your only means of operating your Hand to Paw program. Donations are a constant necessity and a plan of action need always be in play with a forward projection of at least 3-6 months. To run a responsible program realize early on that temples are ever changing; do not wait for an emergency to crop up and not have sufficient funds to cover the incident.

How you solicit and collect monetary donations will be up to the size of your program and requirements needed to operate efficiently. When first starting a Hand to Paw program donation money boxes in a school shop or village store located near the temple are good options as well as school bake sales or dress up days.

One central person, preferably the Hand to Paw coordinator, should keep and manage all donation income or supplies. Accurate accounting is recommended.

### Thank you letters & receipts

All private or group donations, no matter how small require a thank you letter. Appreciation of someone’s gift goes along way. Not only will the letter thank your supporter, it can also be used as an information tool informing benefactors of what your Hand to Paw program is doing as well as providing important contact information. Below is an example of the PTIS Hand to Paw Thank you letter.

16 January 2012

Dear Khun Soon,

Thank you so much for your generous donation of 500 baht to the “Hand to Paw Temple Outreach”. We truly appreciate your continued recognition and appreciation of the work we are doing for the animals in our community.

As you know needy animals in our community and temples go without proper food, shelter and essential medical care every day due to a variety of factors including neglect, over breeding, cruelty, financial resources and awareness.

With the generous support of people like you we will be able to help many of these animals not only to meet essential daily needs, but to work toward a brighter future.

Education, community outreach, vaccinations, spay/neutering, food, protection, adoptions-fostering, fundraising, and necessary medical treatments for these street and temple dogs are but a few of the goals we look to accomplish.

For more information on how your donation is helping to make a difference in the lives of the dogs at these dogs in our community, we invite you to visit

The Hand to Paw Temple Outreach – <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Hand-to-Paw/282948003501>

The Care for Dogs Foundation - <http://www.carefordogs.org/>

Thank you again, and we look forward to your continued support. If you would like to have a receipt for your donation, please let us know.

Sincerely,



Joy Huss  
Student and Temple Coordinator  
Hand to Paw Temple Outreach  
Email: [joyh@threeneration.org](mailto:joyh@threeneration.org)

*Our community temples: Wat Nongplaman, Wat Huay Sai, Wat Mae Ann, Wat Nam Ton,  
Wat Sum Nak Song Sri Rung Ruan, Wat Suan Nawaa*

*Traidhos dogs: Traidhos Farm and campus grounds*

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## Fundraising

Fundraising campaigns for your particular Hand to Paw program that will include support or partnership of Care for Dogs need to be agreed with Care for Dogs beforehand. The distribution of all funds raised will be decided by Care for Dogs. Any use of the Care for Dogs logo for promotional materials must be approved by Care for Dogs.

If the desired fundraising activity is not or cannot be financially covered by Care for Dogs and your outreach wishes to raise funds to sustain your temple project, the Hand to Paw program should be respectful not to do fundraising in conjunction with any Care for Dogs' activity. This includes putting up posters bearing Care for Dogs' logo or placing posters & donation boxes in proximity to those of Care for Dogs' (during a sales event). Advertisements to raise funds for side activities may not be put up on the Care for Dogs' website. Naturally, use of your Hand to Paw funds will be at your programs own discretion.

### Fundraising Ideas:

You do not have to do it alone. Remember to reach out and present your program to other school organizations (Parent School Association, Junior and Senior School administration, other student service groups). Most often they want to help and support your program. Putting together a slideshow presentation with visuals of students working at the temple is a great way to display your program in action.

Balloon game – Throw 3 darts at a board with attached balloons. Each balloon hit wins a free piece of candy. Cost for 3 darts – 20 baht.

Doggie Handicrafts: bandanas painted with fabric markers, doggie throw toys made from old tennis balls and T-shirts, etc.

School Homerooms – Competition to raise money to support one month of care, an injured animal, etc.

Homemade resale items (e.g. Herbal shampoo, soap, cookies, T-shirts, cookbook)

Collection boxes

Bake sale

Dress-up Day

Social event: Dinner gala, ladies luncheon, hosted cocktail party, etc.

## Shelter support

### Purchase of medication, sterilizations or other items

Care for Dogs will reimburse all or partial monies spent for items that Hand to Paw programs are purchasing for use by or in connection with Care for Dogs activities. **All items purchased must be previously agreed upon by a shelter manager** and receipts should be submitted by the 8<sup>th</sup> day of the following month.

Receipts should record Care for Dogs & the shelter address as the buyer of the item(s), the purchased item name, the price of the item, and from whom it was purchased. It is preferable to show the tax paid on the receipt but this is not critical.

At the end of each calendar month, all expenses paid must be listed in a simple excel file, listing by date the receipt detail, the expenditure and the total of all receipts. A printed copy of this list must accompany all receipts to enable prompt reimbursement. Contact Care for Dogs for an Expense Sheet Template.

## **Awareness**

### **Facebook Page**

Creating a Facebook page is a great way for your school group to keep past and present members informed on the daily activities that unfold at the temples in your care. Inputting photos, journals, comments, events, etc., help to give your Hand to Paw program its own identity and also documents the history of your work. Visit the PTIS [Hand to Paw](#) Facebook page for an example preview..

### **Care for Dogs Education programs**

See the [education section](#) on the Care for Dogs website for further educational opportunities available to local Thai or International schools. The Care for Dogs Foundation aims to provide humane education to the children of Chiang Mai in order to instill a respect and understanding for dogs and consequently work to solve the problem of pet overpopulation on our streets.

### **Local media**

### **School website**

### **Newsletters**

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## T-Shirts

We welcome and encourage new schools to use our existing logo for your T-shirt design to help raise awareness and much needed funding for your Hand to Paw temple dog program. Our suggestion is to use the front and back logo and place your school logo on the right or left sleeve. We also included the name of our city at the bottom of the T-shirt (backside).

### Front



### Back



## Forms

### Post-Sterilization Medication directions (THAI translation)

## ฉันควรจะทำอย่างไรหลังจากที่สุนัขของฉันทำหมัน?

หลังจากที่สุนัขได้ทำหมัน เจ้าของของของหมานั้นควรจะปฏิบัติตามคำแนะนำข้างตายนี้ เพื่อสุขภาพของสุนัข ที่เพิ่งทำหมัน

- ไม่ควรจะให้สุนัขทำกิจกรรมหนักๆอย่างวิ่งเล่น เพราะการให้สุนัขนั้นวิ่งเล่นนั้นอาจทำให้แผลนั้นหายยาก ฉะนั้นหมานั้นควรที่จะได้พักผ่อน แล้วมากที่สุดนั้นควรจะไปเดินช้าๆ เพื่อให้มันได้รับการพักผ่อนจาก10 – 14วัน
- รอยผ่าตัดของสุนัขนั้นจะใช้เวลาหายนั้นประมาณ10 – 14 วัน  
ในขณะที่นั้นเจ้าของควรที่จะตรวจดูรอยผ่าตัดหลายๆครั้งในวันหนึ่ง สิ่งที่จะควรระวังสังเกตนั้นคือว่า รอยผ่าตัดนั้นมียรอยแดงหรือบวมไหม บ่อยครั้งบาดแผลนั้นมีลึทิตที่จะได้รับการติดเชื้อ แล้วเมื่อมันติดเชื้ออาจจะทำให้เกิดการเปิดของรอยผ่าตัดซึ่งเป็นอีกสิ่งที่จะควรระวัง หากรอยนั้นเปิดขึ้นมา ควรจะไปหาหมอ
- ควรที่จะทำความสะอาดรอยผ่าตัดทุกวัน โดยการเอาเบตาดีนทาบนรอยผ่าตัด แล้วควรที่จะให้เบตาดีนนั้นแห้ง
- เย็นจะเป็นช่วงเวลาที่เหมาะสมที่สุด เวลาจะให้สุนัขทานยานั้นควรจะหาอาหารประปรอง แล้วยัดยาเข้าไปในอาหาร แล้วจากนั้นก็ให้สุนัขทาน ควรที่จะให้หมาทานยาปฏิชีวนะก่อนยาอื่น

สุนัขนั้นจะได้รับยาปฏิชีวนะแล้วสุนัขนั้นจะต้องทานมันวันละสองครั้ง ช่วงเช้าและ

เจ้าของสุนัขควรที่จะให้สุนัขใส่คอนที่คอของมัน (หมอมักจะใส่ให้สุนัขส่วนมาก) เพื่อป้องกันการที่สุนัขจะเลียหรือกัดแผล นี่เป็นสิ่งที่สำคัญเพราะอาจทำให้เกิดการติดเชื้อได้ คอนนั้นไม่ได้ป้องกันแค่นั้น แต่ในระหว่างที่บาดแผลเริ่มหายนั้น อาจทำให้สุนัขรู้สึกคัน แล้วคอนนั้นจะช่วยไม่ให้สุนัขไปเกาที่แผล สุนัขที่ใส่คอนอาจมีปัญหาคานอาหารหรือน้ำ ฉะนั้นสิ่งที่ดีที่สุดสำหรับสุนัขคือการที่เจ้าของนั้นช่วยยกอาหารหรือน้ำให้สุนัข เพื่อให้สุนัขนั้นกินได้ถนัด

## Educational Ideas

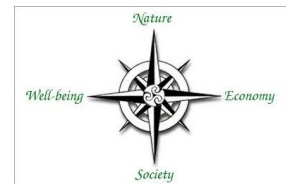
### Sustainability – The \*COMPASS approach

If your Hand to Paw Outreach is going to be a part of a school service-oriented program, using an educational platform such as the [\\*AtKisson Compass of Sustainability](#), will show students nothing happens unless human beings decide to do something ... and then do it. It reflects a commitment to your community with a sustainable understanding encouraging students, staff and community to focus not just on green, but also on global. As a group they will become decision makers, finding solutions to the complex problem of temple dogs in their communities.

The compass tool promotes sustainability by identifying where change in a system will have the greatest impact. This is based upon instances of multi-linkages between issues concerning Nature, Economy, Society and Well-being. Encouraging a holistic view, the Hand to Paw Outreach utilizes the four directions of the Compass (N, E, S, W) to reflect four fully interdependent dimensions of life and we then incorporate it into our program.

#### The COMPASS

- The natural systems on which all life depends (N=Nature)
- The economic systems that provide humanity with goods, services and meaningful work (E=Economy)
- The social and cultural systems that provide cohesion, identity, security and freedom (S=Society)
- The health, happiness and quality of life for individual people and their families (W=Wellbeing)



### Hand to Paw Outreach COMPASS approach

**NATURE:** The small communities of Baan's Nongplaman, Mae Ann and Huay Sai can only sustain the well-being of street dogs on a very small scale. Village pet owners need to be made aware that sterilization of their female dogs will help unwanted pregnancies, which would further increase the population in their village. Neglect, abuse, malnutrition, pregnancy and disease are but a few of the negative impacts on nature if over-breeding is allowed to continue unabated.

**ECONOMY:** Working together to promote a sustainable, healthy dog population will be provided by students from Hand to Paw Outreach working together in fundraising projects and working with the dogs on a weekly or monthly basis. Students will see directly what their efforts are being used for. A hands-on commitment to a handful of dogs will raise not only community awareness, but a personal awareness that we hope will spread to other encounters in their lives with animal welfare. Immunizations, neutering/spaying and supplies will be paid through by the efforts of students fundraising and donations from the public.

**SOCIETY:** The concept of the program has been favorably accepted by the head abbots and novice monks from the temples along with village mayors and elders along with the gathering interest from Prem students. This community effort is sure to benefit relationships with the local villages and Prem. A long

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term goal is to educate the villages in our community about dog sterilization and pet health care, the beneficial and sustainable effects that this will have on their community. The students will have a commitment to be personally responsible for maintaining the health and well-being of the temple's dogs.

**WELL-BEING:** The-sterilization-return project can save lives and reduce over-population of dogs in these small communities. The temples are unable to look after a continuing increase of its dog population whether it is for food, medical care, or simple basic love and attention. The sterilization program is effective on grounds of animal welfare, but if implemented on a larger scale the entire community will also feel the impact environmentally and socially.

Parents and villagers can feel secure that they or their children will not be bothered by a large scale of dogs when visiting the temple, will have a cleaner, healthier temple, and be secure in the knowledge that the dogs are vaccinated and healthy.

## **Community Workshops**

**H**and to Paw believes in promoting outreach and education efforts through non-confrontational methods.

## **Paw Journals**

## **Visit to local shelters**

## **Resource References:**

- [Pet Health Care](#), Dr. Raymond Van Lienden, DVM of Clifton, VA USA
- [My-DogShop.com](#), Jeff Nenadic
- [Road to Rescue](#) – Dog Rescue Best Practices Manual
- Informative information can be found on URL: <http://www.marvistavet.com> for a variety of dog diseases, illnesses, and prescription drug definitions.



Although this handbook notates prescription dosages and medical treatments, it is only as a guide and medications should not be administered without veterinary oversight.

## **Acknowledgement**

I want to thank [Karin Hawelka](#), Co-founder of the Care for Dogs Foundation, for her continued and unwavering support to me both personally and in regards to the success and growth of Hand to Paw. She is a woman I aspire to for her purposeful dedication and service to the plight of the street and temple dogs of Chiang Mai, Thailand.

Further thanks go to my co-founder Sandy Clyburn, volunteers Liz Purdue and Mary MacLachlan along with the hundreds of PTIS students that have joined Hand to Paw to make a difference in their community.

- Joy Huss