

Occasionally my dog vomits or has diarrhea, what should I do when this happens?

Digestive disorders are quite common and most cases resolve with minimal treatment, but having important information for your veterinarian can help get to the root of the problem faster. The following questions will help you give the right information to your veterinarian.

When did you first notice vomiting or diarrhea?

Is your dog's appetite normal?

Please know your dog's current diet including regular dog food and a list of treats, table scraps, bones, trash or any potential toxins your dog could have gotten into

Has there been any diet change in the last few days to weeks?

Is your dog as active as normal?

Have there been any changes in water consumption? Either increased or decreased?

Does your dog leave your house or yard?

Is there a toy or article of clothing that your dog could have chewed and swallowed?

Are there any other pets in the house with similar signs?

Armed with this information you can help your veterinarian if the signs don't resolve with a few simple steps. First, hold your dog off food about 12 hours (not always recommended for puppies or very small breeds of dogs – call your veterinarian for these dogs), then offer very small amounts of a bland diet such as boiled chicken with no skin or

seasonings and boiled rice. If your dog continues to vomit or have diarrhea when they are held off food, the signs return as soon as you start to feed the bland diet or your dog's attitude and activity are affected it's time for an appointment with your veterinarian.