



## HOW NATURALPET.HEALTH CAN HELP YOUR DOG'S SEIZURES

### WHY PETS HAVE SEIZURES:

- Seizures are caused by brain irritation
- In young dogs, epilepsy is the most common cause
- In old dogs, brain tumors are not uncommon
- In pets of all ages, the brain can be irritated by other health issues, like liver problems or toxins

### DIAGNOSING WHY A PET HAS SEIZURES

- FROM THE NECK DOWN, our goal is to look for any disease that might affect the brain
  - bloodwork to evaluate organ and bone marrow function
  - urinalysis to evaluate your pet's systemic health
  - Ultrasound examination to evaluate abdominal structure
  - Heart evaluation through radiographs and ECG measurement.
- FROM THE NECK UP, to evaluate the structure of a pet's brain
  - CT or MRI studies

### INTEGRATIVE CARE

- CBD OIL**— PROVEN TO HELP REDUCE SEIZURES.
- Coconut oil** as a source of dietary Medium Chain Triglycerides, or MCTs— very effective.
- Curcumin** 50 mg per lb body weight per day to reduce inflammation ... naturally.
- SAMe**— DeLiver or Denamarin to support brain and cognitive function

### DRUGS— typical rule of thumb is to start drugs only if seizures more frequent than once a month.

- Acute treatment of the seizing pet = Valium or Pentobarbital injections
- Oral medications to minimize (but maybe not eliminate) seizures at home:
  - Phenobarbital tablets are the old standby.
  - Potassium bromide tablets or powder is a great and very safe adjunctive therapy
  - There are newer drugs like Keppra or Zonisamide that may also help seizing pets

### DIET— There is increasing evidence of the value of oral Medium Chain Triglycerides in fighting seizures.

- The best source of MCTs ?? Coconut Oil !!
  - This can be given as a supplement, as part of a homecooked diet, or via Purina Neurocare Rx Diet
- There is also great evidence supporting the use of ketogenic diets to minimize seizures**

### MONITORING TESTS ARE DICTATED BY THE REASON FOR SEIZURES AND THE MEDICATIONS A PET IS ON.

- If underlying metabolic disease, at two weeks and then monthly until stable
- If on drugs like phenobarbital, bromides, or zonisamide— drug levels at one month until at the desired level, then every 6 months beyond that.