

incredibly valuable aid at helping the body to fight off infection and assist tissue healing.

Within a few minutes, he started to stabilise but we were nowhere near out of the woods. With his internal bleeding and collapsed state I was very worried about him and knew that unless some kind of miracle occurred, his life was in great danger.

Thankfully, we have one of only three veterinary hyperbaric oxygen chambers in New Zealand. Hyperbaric Oxygen Therapy (HBOT) has profound healing effects as it delivers high concentrations of oxygen to all tissues of the body which accelerates healing, kills bugs and promotes vitality.

I treated Tyson in the chamber as soon as he was stable enough and an hour after his treatment he was standing up.

That night I slept with him at the clinic to monitor him and ensure he was getting all the medications he needed. He was still very weak but would wag his tail when I went to check on him.

Through the night he continued to vomit up large amounts of brown red fluid with bloody globules and meaty-looking bits meaning that he was still bleeding inside – in fact, so severely that his gut lining was sloughing off.

By next morning he was again very lethargic and could hardly move. His caring owner came into visit him and was distraught.

She reported that there was ant poison near her house where Tyson spent a lot of time. This helped to explain his symptoms. Small amounts of ant poison can lead to tummy upsets but larger amounts cause the gut to bleed and can be deadly.

We repeated the HBOT which helped to perk him up. Through the day he slowly looked brighter and even wanted to drink some water. Because of the damage to his gut he vomited it up despite all the anti-vomiting medication he was getting.



A much-improved patient after treatment.

We kept him on his drip and that night treated him again with HBOT. He then began to have very watery diarrhea but at least there was no blood which meant that the internal bleeding had stopped.

By Monday morning he was looking stronger and could go for short walks outside. He continued to vomit, though, and was losing a lot of weight.

In the afternoon he was given an acupuncture treatment and he did

not vomit at all through that night.

Tyson continued to make a steady recovery and by the Wednesday he was able to eat some food and keep it down, which was remarkable given the severity of the damage to his gut.

He is now a fit and healthy young dog with no sign of any problems.

Thanks to the devotion of his owner as well as HBOT and acupuncture, Tyson had survived severe ant poisoning. 🐾