**Ask Dr. OES**

**A Column from the Health and Research Committee**

**Send your questions to oeshealth@gmail.com.**

**Dear Dr. OES,**

I have a four-month-old male OES. He is a beautiful dog, but I noticed that his testicles have not descended. How worried should I be about this condition?

**No Jingle Bells in Ballston, OR**

**Dear No Jingle,**

From our experience (the Health & Research Committee), if a testicle is not down by 4 months, it's probably not coming down.  Other breeds may have testicles descend later.  I hope he wasn't considered for showing because you probably know they have to have both testicles and the judge does check for them.

When you decide to neuter him (18-24 months), it will be a more intensive surgery since the vet will have to find the testicles within the abdominal cavity.  You should definitely neuter him though because the chance of testicular cancer is increased in cryptorchid dogs, ie. dogs who have undescended testicles.

Dr. OES

**WHAT TO DO IF YOU SEE YOUR DOG EATING SOMETHING POISONOUS:**

1. Call your vet.
2. Vomiting can be induced by giving Hydrogen Peroxide by mouth…

**BUT…**

… Do not induce vomiting unless your vet tells you to do so because some toxic substances can cause esophageal damage coming back up.



**Dangerous Christmas Plants for Dogs**

* **Poinsettia**
* **Mistletoe and Holly**
* **Daffodils**
* **Amaryllis**
* **Yews and Evergreens**

**Dangerous Christmas Foods for Dogs**

* **Chocolate**
* **Grapes, Raisins, and Currants**
* **Black Walnuts and Macadamia Nuts**
* **Blue Cheese**
* **Onions, garlic, leeks, shallots, chives**
* **Xylitol**

ASPCA has a list of poisons on their website:

**https://www.aspca.org/pet-care/animal-poison-control**

24-hour, 365-day hotline (with a $65 fee):

**1-888-426-4435**