



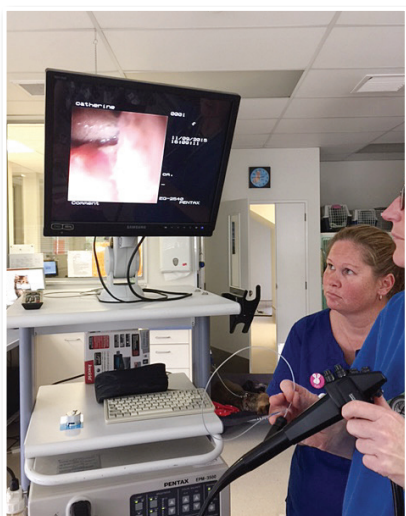
McMASTER & HEAP VETERINARY PRACTICE

Socks saga

When owner Poppy saw her 5 month old Rottweiler cross puppy Marlo chewing one of her socks, she knew she needed to get it off her in case it was swallowed. Unfortunately Marlo had better ideas, quickly gulping down the sock before it could be retrieved.

There then followed an anxious two hour wait to see if Marlo would vomit the sock back up. When this didn't happen, Poppy rang us at McMaster and Heap and she was advised to bring Marlo in for an assessment.

Once Marlo was checked over it was elected to remove the sock using the practice endoscope rather than waiting to see if it would pass through the gastrointestinal tract.



The endoscope was introduced into the mouth and passed down the oesophagus and into the stomach. Initially the sock could not be seen amongst all the food that had been eaten for breakfast. After some of this food was removed, the black sock was soon located. Special forceps were then passed down inside the endoscope and used to grasp and lock onto the sock.

The risk of leaving the sock to pass through the gastrointestinal tract is that it might not manage to do that. If it is not vomited back up from the stomach, it can potentially get stuck as it leaves the spacious stomach and moves into the narrower small intestine. This can lead to a very sick animal requiring expensive surgery and hospitalisation.

During the procedure to remove the ingested sock, Marlo was anaesthetised and placed on intravenous fluids and a blood pressure monitoring system.



The sock was then gently removed from the stomach via the oesophagus and mouth as the endoscope was withdrawn.

Marlo made a rapid and uneventful recovery from the procedure which was a fantastic result for both owner and patient.

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