



VETERINARY SURGEONS
TIM LAWS B.V.Sc.
ROB SCHAECHER B.V.Sc (Hons)
ALISON GORRELL B.V.Sc. (Hons)
MARION WELCH B.Sc., B.V.M.S.
DAVID ALLEN B.V.Sc. (Hons)
LIZ SMIT B.V.M.S. (Hons)
GARY POST B.V.Sc
266 CHARLES STREET, LAUNCESTON, TASMANIA 7250
PHONE (03 6331 9405
www.animalmedicaltas.com.au
E: admin@animalmedicaltas.com.au

Lily Intoxication in Cats

Many cat owners may not be aware that White Lily Flowers commonly used in floral arrangements and grown in gardens have the potential to cause life threatening kidney (renal) failure in cats.

Indoor Cats and especially kittens may be drawn to floral arrangements, and outdoor cats are just as inquisitive.

The toxic substance in lilies that injures the kidneys of cats has not been identified, but ALL parts of the lily are poisonous – flowers, stem, leaves and roots. The toxic dose is unknown, but thought to be reached by ingesting or tasting very small amounts of material.

Signs of Poisoning usually within 2 hours of ingesting –

- Vomiting
- Depression
- Loss of Appetite

If you see these symptoms in your cat and know they have had access to Lily plants this is considered a medical emergency and you should seek a vet immediately. If left untreated Lily Poisoning can cause irreversible kidney failure and death within 3 to 7 days.

Although at this stage there is no specific test that can identify Lily Intoxication, we can diagnose the presence of acute renal failure using blood tests, urine tests, an ultrasound examination and possibly a needle biopsy of the kidneys.

The most important advice we are giving to cat owners is to keep them away from White Lilies and seek medical advice ASAP if you notice any symptoms of poisoning.

Bridgette Feast
Veterinary Nurse
20.1.14