



House Rabbit Network

Veterinary Visits and Emergency Procedure

General concerns (non-emergency) can be emailed to:
Entire Foster Home Group: HRNfoster@yahoogroups.com
Medical Committee: medical@rabbitnetwork.org
Foster/Intake Committee: foster@rabbitnetwork.org

If you need a vet visit:

You MUST call to receive approval before visiting a vet by someone on the Medical Committee unless it is an absolute emergency. You can call these numbers at any hour.

Please try the following numbers:

Suzanne Trayhan	978-362-8258 OR 978-790-1985	zanne67@yahoo
Linda Massey	617-506-9867	lists@spottedlop.com
Astrid Kruse	781-249-4045	bunnyvet2003@yahoo.com
Erica Locke	781-548-9178	ehlocke@gmail.com

In an absolute emergency, you can head straight to the closest veterinary office, however you will be responsible for paying the veterinary bill at the time of service. Following the visit, immediately contact one of the people above and requests for reimbursements can be mailed to the HRN PO Box with all receipts and veterinary bills.

Following all veterinary visits, send an email to the medical committee (medical@rabbitnetwork.org) with a detailed description of the diagnosis, any medicine prescribed, any veterinary recommendations, etc. All of this material will be stored in the database by the medical committee for future reference.

Things you can try at home:

If you feel comfortable trying some things at home, and your foster bun is not eating and pooping normally, but otherwise acting normal, you can try these steps:

1. feed critical care, try for at least ten ccs three times daily
2. give belly massages
3. try a warm water bottle or bean bag to lie the bunny on
4. encourage hopping around
5. if you have access to these under the direction of a veterinarian, you can give subcutaneous fluids and pain medications (meloxicam)
6. simethicone (infant Gas X) drops

If your foster bunny has a small wound (smaller than a quarter)

1. clip/cut hair away from it if you can
2. scrub it with some chlorhexidine (antiseptic) or less preferably hydrogen peroxide
3. apply very small amount bacitracin and discourage grooming that area for a half hour

Book Options:

Rabbit Health in the 21st Century

Medical Issue FAQ

Medical issues requiring immediate attention:

Go to your rabbit vet immediately if they are open, or if closed the emergency hospital right away, call HRN rep on the way

1. labored breathing, flaring of the nostrils
2. seizure lasting more than ten seconds, or a second seizure
3. fly strike (maggots)
4. wounds that are bleeding or a bigger hole than a puncture (check if blood is from broken nail first, a broken nail is not an emergency)
5. not eating and not pooping, as well as lethargic
6. head tilt and rolling
7. not using leg and the leg is dangling or obviously broken

Medical issues requiring a veterinary appointment (can wait until morning):

Call HRN rep to receive approval and veterinary appointment

1. one seizure lasting less than ten seconds
2. a small wound that is not bleeding
3. not eating and not pooping but acting normally otherwise
4. head tilt without rolling
5. eye discharge and the rabbit seems uncomfortable
6. drooling and not eating normally
7. limping or not using a leg that is not dangling or obviously broken

Medical issues that may require veterinary visit (ensure rabbit is otherwise eating, drinking and acting normally):

Call or email HRN rep to discuss making a vet appointment

1. a mild decreased poop production and appetite
2. sneezing
3. eye discharge and the rabbit seems comfortable
4. drooling but eating well
5. lumps and bumps