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XYLITOL TOXICITY

Xylitol is an artificial sweetening agent found more and more commonly in chewing gum, candies and for use in baking.

It is not considered harmful to humans, but if ingested by dogs, will trigger a sudden surge in blood insulin levels. This, in turn, causes a very dramatic reduction of blood sugar levels (hypoglycaemia).

Persistent hypoglycaemia will result in weakness, incoordination, tremors, seizures and eventually death, if left untreated. As little as one piece of chewing gum can cause these symptoms in a 10 pound dog.

If you suspect that your dog has ingested substances containing Xylitol, seek immediate medical assistance, as this condition can be treated.

In my practice, I have treated 2 cases of this in the past 5 months, thankfully, with success. And this is the reason I have repeated this article.

