

## INFO ON T-CUP CHIHUAHUAS

The Chihuahua, once 6 mos. old, is a very hardy little dog. Until the Chihuahua puppy reaches this age, you will need to take special precautions to keep your puppy happy and healthy. The tinier the Chihuahua you purchase, the less room for error you will have in its care.

If you have just bought a tinier sized Chihuahua puppy he will weigh around 1 - 1 1/2 lbs at 12-14 weeks old. All it takes is a one-time error in judgment to have a serious problem develop. One night in which the puppy chills can be a serious, life threatening illness. This is because small puppies under 2 lbs do not store much fat (energy reserve) around the liver. So, if the tiny puppy uses up all his energy reserve shivering to keep warm on a chilly night, then in the morning you are presented with a weak puppy whom may be in crisis with low blood sugar!

**EMERGENCY LOW BLOOD SUGAR needs to be recognized and treatment started at home BEFORE YOU DRIVE TO THE VET.....** Puppy may be laying on side making swimming motions and unable to get up, head may be tilted back and puppy may appear unconscious. Puppy can be walking but staggering and twitching. If conscious, give your puppy **KARO SYRUP 1teaspoon using a plastic dropper. The mouth may be clenched shut so tight you may have to use some gentle pressure to open the mouth. IF THE PUPPY IS UNCONSCIOUS KEEP HIM ON HIS SIDE AND RUB DROP AFTER DROP OF KARO ON THE INSIDE OF HIS MOUTH.....** the saliva will run out of his mouth

So **RULE ONE** provide a heating pad set on LOW for your new puppy. Keep the pad wrapped in a pillowcase and buy a cord cover to slip over the cord. Make sure the puppy can step away from the heating pad so the pad should not cover the full bottom of the Chihuahua bed.

**A HIGHLY NUTRITIOUS DIET IS NEEDED BY YOUR TINY PUPPY** so no cheap foods! You will need to go to a Petshop to buy the expensive quality brands. SCIENCE DIET PUPPY SMALL BITES. Also, ROYAL CANIN PUPPY 33 dry food as well. Both are dry foods prepared with the finest ingredients and feeding these quality foods will produce nice firm stools in your puppy. Both dry foods can be purchased at PETSMAART. Both can be soaked to make a SOFT FOOD SERVING. So **RULE TWO** provide a nutritious diet with the finest and best foods you can buy. ALWAYS give your tiny Chihuahua puppy at least TWO SOFT FOODS per day as well as DRY FOOD IN BOWL AT ALL TIMES. We use

bottled water for our dogs and puppies. Do not buy canned food that has multiple ingredients, as these foods are too rich. Canned food that has only a couple main ingredients, like chicken and rice, would be unlikely to cause diarrhea if fed only once a day.

**DIARRHEA** is not ONE or TWO loose stool in 24 hours but rather several soft formed or water stools in 12-24 hours. Diarrhea can lead to rapid dehydration with body chemistry imbalance, organ failure, and death. TWO soft stools within 6 hours merits a stool examination by your Vet..*Diarrhea with 3 or more soft stools in a 12 hour period is an **EMERGENCY.*** We advise a FECAL FLOTATION TEST to check for Giardia or Coccidia, worms, and if this comes out negative then we advise a GLASS SLIDE FECAL TEST to look for bacteria's such as Ecoli, Salmonella and Campylobactor. These are all food poisoning bacteria's...**ANY PUPPY WITH DIARRHEA an/or vomiting that TESTS NEGATIVE for Cocci, Giardia and worms SHOULD BE PUT ON a trial 3 day run of FLAGLY and/or a broad spectrum antibiotic such as Zithromax in case the pup has an intestinal bacterial infection..... Do not permit your Vet to diagnose PARVO because of a LOW POSITIVE fecal parvo test! A false positive reading can be from a vaccination your puppy had.** Your Vet doesn't want to look bad so if he doesn't know what is wrong with the pup he may just blame a canine virus.

**YOUR NEW PUPPY NEEDS PEACE AND QUIET** for the first couple weeks in his new environment. Constant running around and excitement will wear your puppy out and you will end up with a health crisis. **RULE THREE** always make sure that your puppy has a place to call his own. Make sure the puppy has his own toys, blanket, and bed in a quiet area he can rest and feel safe and secure. Your puppy should rest for 2 hours for every 1-2 hours of play. His area should not be drafty so do not located it near a fan, or vent, or near a door. His area should not be located near a furnace nor near a fireplace. We prefer that you buy a playpen for the first 2 months you have your puppy.

**LET THE PUPPY EXPLORE A LITTLE BIT AT A TIME...**A puppy may be small but will still like to walk around and have his feet on the ground! Do not let the puppy have full run of the home. Also, a loving child may want to carry the puppy all around, but you must not permit this. **RULE FOUR** Do not let your child carry the puppy around like a toy! This can cause motion sickness and lack of appetite. How would you like to be on a constant moving "ride" much of the time?

**OTHER PETS :** A puppy likes other animals but needs time by himself for the first few weeks. Also, he and other pets, can cross contaminate each other with bacteria, parasites, and viruses. **RULE**

**FIVE** never introduce a new puppy immediately into a pet population. You need to keep your new puppy away from other dogs and animals for at least 2 -4 weeks.

Puppies cannot swim! Keep your puppy away from your pool.

**TODDLERS** between 1 and 3 do not know their own strength and can squeeze a puppy to death so please keep the tiny ones away from puppy.

Make sure your puppy drinks plenty of water daily

**WORK FULL-TIME?** If so, then you will need a babysitter for your tiny puppy for the first 1-3 months after you bring him home. Arrange your babysitter long before you bring your baby. Since our puppies are sold at 12-14 weeks then the larger chi pup who is independent, happy to play alone, and eats well can stay home 4-6 hours at a time. A teacup who is a finicky eater needs monitoring every 2 hours.