

Bites from *Ixodes holocyclus*, more commonly known as the Australian paralysis tick, result in a neurotoxin being injected into animals which can result in life-threatening paralysis to our beloved pets.

If you find a tick on your pet, it's very important to continue to have them monitored for any signs of tick paralysis for 48 hours after a paralysis tick is removed, even if they seem normal at the time. Signs of paralysis may develop suddenly or progress slowly, but animals can still deteriorate after tick removal, even if no further toxins are added to their system. Animals can also have more than one tick attached, making thorough repeat searches (which may require full body clips in some animals) essential.

If you're unsure if a tick that is attached or has been removed from your pet is a paralysis tick, or if your animal is showing any signs that may be associated with the toxin (no matter how mild or even if a tick hasn't been found) it's important to seek veterinary advice.

Tick paralysis treatment at VSS

It is generally recommended that all affected patients receive tick antiserum, with additional supportive treatments and care as determined by your veterinary team. The sickest tick paralysis patients may require supplemental oxygen and possibly even mechanical ventilation in our intensive care units to support their breathing while they recover.



For more information, follow the QR code to our dedicated webpage on Tick Paralysis in our Client Information section.



This webpage also contains a video of one of our Internal Medicine vets talking more about how to perform a thorough tick search and explains the clinical signs of tick paralysis as well as how to prevent problems with ticks for your dog.

Information about payment options can be found here:



A patient's journey through our hospital



Our Locations

Underwood

1 Lexington Road,
Underwood QLD 4119

Jindalee

24/34 Goggs Road,
Jindalee QLD 4074

Carrara

104 Eastlake Street,
Carrara QLD 4211

Bookings:

Please call 1800 442 648 to book your appointment with one of our surgical specialists.

www.vss.net.au