THE SUGAR-FREE NIGHTMARE: XYLITOL
WHAT YOU MAY NOT KNOW COULD KILL YOUR DOG

XYLITOL IS NO SWEET MATTER
You already know chocolate is bad for your dog, but there’s a new danger and it’s probably in your cupboards and purse right this moment as you’re reading this article!

It’s called “xyitol” (classified as a sugar alcohol) and it’s the latest “safe” additive in many “sugar-free” products (and even some products not often thought of as “sugar-free”).

But xyitol is anything but “safe” for your canine family member. As little as 0.1g of xyitol (per kg of your dog’s bodyweight) is enough to cause toxicity! Remember this too: the smaller the dog, the faster, and more severe, the consequences.

DO YOU KNOW WHERE TO FIND XYLITOL?
What you may not know is that hundreds of products contain this potentially life-threatening toxin if your dog eats it. For example:

- Peanut & Nut Butters
- Toothpaste & Mouthwash
- Chewing Gum & Mints
- English Muffins & Cookies
- Beauty Products (for the face and body) and cosmetics

While many of these items (with the exception of peanut/nut butters) are not typically fed to dogs, owners need to keep in mind that dogs are notorious for sniffing out sweet and yummy-smelling items and ingesting them in a heartbeat! Take time to read the labels and be vigilant - and teach family members - to put any items containing xyitol out of reach of your dog’s inquisitive nose (and mouth).

SYMPTOMS OF XYLITOL POISONING
Xylitol absorption into the bloodstream is much faster in dogs; in fact, toxicity can occur in as little as 30 minutes. But, some dogs may not show the following symptoms for up to 48 hours after eating xyitol; including:

- Vomiting
- Loss of Body Control
- Lethargy & Depression
- Staggering & Collapse
- Seizures, Tremors & Coma

Potential consequences include: hypoglycemia (low blood sugar), acute liver damage/failure and even death.

IF YOUR DOG HAS EATEN XYLITOL
... inducing vomiting or using activated charcoal will not help your dog. Actually, there is little you can do at home; immediately take your dog to your vet or emergency care because time is of the essence.

(Sources: www.NCBI.NLM.NIH.gov, PetSCI.co.uk and PetGuide.com.)
DO YOU KNOW THE TRUTH ABOUT PIT BULLS
(ONCE CALLED THE NANNY DOG)??

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