Central Texas Veterinary
SPECIALTY & EMERGENCY
HOSPITAL
Powerful medicine. Exceptional care.

Terminology
Emergency Triage Trigger Words and Phrases

It's important to recognize common words and phrases that could indicate the pet may need immediate medical attention. Listen carefully as the client provides you details about their pet's conditions or reason for being seen. It could mean the need for emergency medical care, even if they were checking in for a recheck visit.

Common Trigger Words

HIT BY CAR	ATTACKED BY DOG	SNAKE BITE
PALE GUMS OR TONGUE	WON'T STOP BLEEDING	DYING
LEFT IN CAR	COLLAPSED	NOT RESPONDING
BLOATED OR SWOLLEN STOMACH	ATTEMPTING TO VOMIT	PANTING AND DRY HEAVING
LABORED BREATHING	STRAINING TO URINATE	DARK OR BLACK STOOL
DRUNK OR DISORIENTED	POISONED	WEAKNESS OR WOBBLING
HEART FAILURE	DIABETIC	SEIZURE OR STROKE
CHOKING ON SOMETHING	BLUE GUMS OR TONGUE	LEFT OUTSIDE OR OVERHEATED
DROPPED ON HEAD	FELL IN POOL	NOT DELIVERED PUPPY OR KITTEN

Exercise

What other trigger words or phrases have you heard clients say?