

Bravecto Serious Side Effects The personal story of "Hunter"

(the dog of Susan Wolfe, who started the first
facebook group in English "DOES BRAVECTO KILL DOGS")

Facebook Group: [Is Bravecto Safe](#)
Website: www.isbravectosafe.com



I started this group (DOES BRAVECTO KILL DOGS, admin.) because my dog became ill nine days after taking Bravecto. When he was sick, I was able to find scattered reports of side effects on the internet, but they were in many locations. I started this group in my quest to search for answers on side effects. It has quickly become an awareness group where people can come and report the side effects of Bravecto and others can learn so they can be better informed when making decisions for their pets. I did not realize when I started this group how few people knew they needed to report side effects to the manufacturer and FDA. So, it quickly became apparent that this group can also help make sure consumers report side effects so data can be more accurate.

I am very proud to say we are accomplishing these goals. In just a little over a month we have a significant number of reports on this board of diarrhea, lethargy, vomiting and failure to eat starting quickly after giving Bravecto. All of these are side effects are documented in the study conducted BY the manufacturer's employees – not even an independent group. However, these symptoms are reported by owners to last for days and days and are often severe enough to require owners to seek medical care for their pets.

We are also receiving reports of ongoing, possible long term neurological symptoms - seizures, frenzied behavior, and loss of control of limbs. Again, many of these started

immediately after the pet consumed Bravecto. We also know a seizure occurred in one of the dogs in the margin of safety study conducted to support approval of this drug.

There is a growing pattern of reports of dogs having many of these GI symptoms and then kidney or liver failure. We are concerned about the impact Bravecto has on the kidneys and liver given reports that Fluralaner is systemically distributed and reaches the highest concentrations in the visceral fat, followed by liver, kidney and muscle.

We have several people that reported that their dogs that appeared to be totally healthy died within a short time of giving them Bravecto. Many of these dogs experienced the known side effects of this medication shortly after giving them Bravecto.

For those of you that don't know Hunter's story, he was a 1.5 year old King Charles Cavalier with no adverse medical symptoms prior to taking Bravecto. Within 9 days he started having loose stools and was lethargic. His stools were a funny light brown color. He had no interest in playing. He was treated with an antibiotic and it did not get much better. It then progressed to him refusing to eat. I first brought him to the veterinarian about two weeks after he started having problems because he completely stopped eating. At this point, some liver blood tests were off, but his kidney function was in normal range. We then went in for an ultrasound to look at the kidneys and liver. Nothing looked wrong.

A couple of days later he was put in the hospital for IV fluids and various medications since he continued to not eat. The day he went into the hospital he had bloody diarrhea for the first time. He came home and ended up in another hospital for a GI scope since he still would not eat. Right before he was admitted for the scope I was told his ionized calcium was elevated and his kidney function deteriorated.

They initially ruled out cancer by checking his protein in blood, ultrasounds, and the GI scope. His lab work did not show pancreatic insufficiency.

However, his necropsy came back showing pancreatic insufficiency. His veterinarian does not understand why since Hunter was tested for pancreatic insufficiency a couple weeks before he died and he did not have it. He had no GI problems before consuming Bravecto. The necropsy report also showed cancer that started in the kidneys and spread to his lymph nodes, tonsils, and bone marrow. Cancer starting in the kidneys affects LESS THAN 1% of dogs and most of them are older dogs - not 1 1/2 year old pups. By the time he died, his kidneys were double their normal size. The veterinarian could not explain why Hunter started with GI problems, did not have GI cancer, and had none of the typical signs of kidney cancer such as increased thirst, increased urination, and vomiting. It is very strange that he ended up with such severe GI issues and kidney cancer.

Hunter's battle is leading to a great legacy. I know that Hunter appears to be an exception to many of the reports on this board, His symptoms were delayed by nine days after taking Bravecto and he had high ionized calcium, which has not been reported in the other deaths. I will always firmly believe at a minimum that Bravecto caused his pancreatic issues. I will always wonder what role it had in his final diagnosis given the inconsistencies, the Washington Post article about the active ingredient being cancerous to rats, and the timing in which all his symptoms started. His breeder reports no history of cancer, so it is very strange that he got what less than 1% of dogs get after taking Bravecto.

We have to keep reporting. Will every death reported be due to this medicine? Likely not. But the patterns that we are seeing with the other dogs in this group are making others

question the similarities and they have to be reported so they can be fully investigated. We encourage everyone that has had a dog die, who has been on Bravecto, to get a necropsy if they think this medicine is involved. If you suspect the drug caused your dog to get sick or die, you have to report it to the FDA and Merck so they can investigate. Even if it lasts for one day only!

I am shocked by the lack of awareness of some veterinarians that sell this drug. I am concerned they are not fully aware of how the product works or the potential side effects. We have seen that with posts to this board. It still baffles me that one of our members reported that a Merck veterinarian said it couldn't impact the GI after 1-2 days when we are seeing so many contrary reports here. Another one of our members reported that another Merck representative pretty much said the only effects it causes are itching, hives, and bumps. We have to report all side effects so everyone is aware of potential risks.

I hope that no one reading this has to go through what we did with Hunter. It breaks my heart to see so many pet owners report that their pets are suffering after being given this medication. That is why it is critical for pet owners to stand together, to protect one another and protect our pets. We need to ensure the reports get filed with the FDA and Merck. This responsibility is ours - and we must let them know there are serious consumer concerns about the safety of this drug.

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