

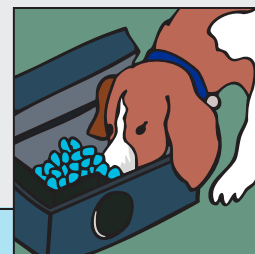
How Rodenticides Harm Wildlife and Pets



People use anticoagulant (blood thinning) rodenticides (ARs) to try to control rats. But ARs are indiscriminate poisons that can affect other mammals, birds, reptiles, and fish.

Primary Exposure

Rodents (or other animals) consume poison bait which disrupts blood clotting ability. Rodents die from internal bleeding over 4 to 14 days.



ARs disrupt blood clotting ability.

Blood coagulation

Activation of clotting factors

Vitamin K cycle

Inhibition by anticoagulant

VK

VK

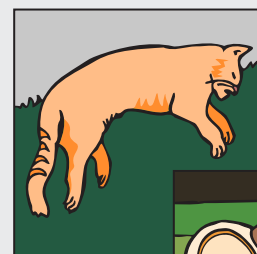
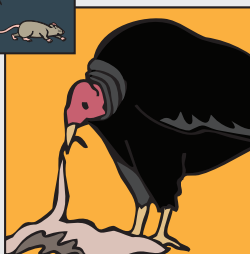
VK

VK

LIVER

Secondary Exposure

Wildlife predator or pet eats poisoned, sickened rodent.



Secondary Poisoning

Sublethal Effects

If wildlife do not consume a lethal dose they may still experience

- Compromised immune system
- Less ability to regulate body temperature
- Reduced reproduction
- Increased stress hormones
- Susceptibility to infections
- Poor body condition



Mountain lion with mange

Depending on the compound, poison remains in living rodents, carcasses or in the environment for between 2 weeks to 12 months. First generation (older) anticoagulants like chlorophacinone, diphacinone, and warfarin can stay in a rodent/the environment for 2 to 8 weeks. Second generation (newer) anticoagulants like brodifacoum, bromadiolone, difethialone, and difenacoum can stay in a rodent/the environment for around 2 to 12 months. Studies show that one exposure to ARs can lead to increased vulnerability to future exposure.



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