

TECHNICAL INFORMATION BULLETIN

What to do if accidental ingestion by pets is suspected

As with any rodenticide, **Selontra**[®] rodent bait can pose a risk for accidental exposure to “non-target animals” if used in a manner not consistent with the label. The instructions on the **Selontra** label include the use of only tamper-resistant bait stations, storing unused bait in the closed, original container, and keeping it out of reach of children and pets. If, however, a pet is suspected of accidentally ingesting **Selontra**, this step-by-step guide can assist PMPs and homeowners in responding to the accidental ingestion.



If accidental ingestion of **Selontra** Rodent Bait or another rodenticide is suspected, prompt veterinary treatment can be critical to the life of the pet. Immediately call an emergency animal hospital or the BASF Hotline at 1-800-832-4357 (24/7) and select option 3 for first-aid advice. State that the pet has possibly ingested **Selontra** with the active ingredient **cholecalciferol** and describe any symptoms the animal may be showing. Trained professionals will provide immediate guidance on steps to take for suspected exposure. Tests to determine the levels of calcium and phosphate in urine and cholecalciferol in blood may assist a veterinarian in determining if the pet has ingested cholecalciferol.

Note: If a customer is reporting an incident to you and has already taken the emergency precautions described above, you should also report the incident to BASF by calling 1-800-832-4357 and pressing “3” to report the incident to our response team.

Inspections on the property

After ensuring the health and well-being of the pet, a prompt on-site inspection is critical in determining if **Selontra** (cholecalciferol) ingestion has occurred or if the pet has been exposed to another toxin. Ideally, both the customer and PMP should immediately conduct a thorough on-site investigation and do the following:

1. Take pictures and record all findings. Records, including the location of all bait stations, the rate or amount of bait in each station and dates of service, are helpful.

2. Inspect all stations and ensure they are secured, the locks are in good working order and that no bait beyond rodent consumption is missing. If any station is open and/or not secured, inspect to determine if any bait is missing. Remember to look for signs of rodent feeding activity or any other signs of feeding.
3. Locate the area where the rodenticide was possibly ingested and/or accessed by the pet. (Note: **Selontra** is light green in color and comes in 1.5” individual squares wrapped in a clear wrapper with printing on it.)
4. Note the presence of rodent carcasses and investigate if the pet had access them. If no dead rodents are found and bait stations on the property show no signs of tampering, there is always a possibility that neighboring properties might be using rodenticides.
5. If there are no signs of **Selontra** exposure, check for other possible toxins in the area, including pesticides, plants, garden products, cleaning supplies, human and animal medicines, etc., which can be dangerous to pets.* It is possible that the pet has been exposed to another rodenticide or toxin.

In summary, If **Selontra** ingestion is suspected, seek immediate medical attention for the affected animal. There are several therapies that can alleviate the effects of cholecalciferol poisoning. Following up as soon as possible with the property owner to inspect the area to help ensure such accidents don’t occur again.

* ASPCA Animal Poison Control Center - <https://www.aspcapro.org/resource/top-10-animal-toxins-2017>
Always follow label directions.