#J-115
Gastric Lavage Kit

Please review these directions before using to avoid delays and complications in the rush of an emergency.

DIRECTIONS

The metal faucet attachment should be hooked up to the faucet. (Most modern American faucets generally have the 15/16" faucet head.)

In Figure #1, threads are inside the faucet opening. A small aerator is already located there and should be temporarily removed. This allows the adapter in Fig. 1 to be used and it is now screwed into the faucet head.

If this adaptor does not fit, it is suggested you try a plumbing store and get a universal adapter made by Melard (pictured in Fig. 2).

Next, lay the stomach irrigator out completely flat to avoid kinking and twisting. The end of the stomach tube has a metal ball for radiographic marking. The appropriate lavage tube is selected, using the largest one that will pass comfortably.

The animal should be stabilized as best as possible and then anesthetized. A mouth gag (JorVet J-51 series) should be used and an endotracheal tube should be in place to avoid tracheal aspiration. The lavage tube's distal end is heavily lubricated and gently inserted down the esophagus and into the stomach. Often upon entering the stomach, a gentle pop will be felt and ingesta will rush outward. In cases of suspected volvulus or twists of less than 180° degrees, the tube will still pass if gently turned or rotated, and is heavily lubricated. Do not force or jam the tube if it does not pass easily, but instead, try using a smaller tube.

Next, the stomach irrigator tube is passed down the lavage tube, until it lies a few inches beyond the end of the lavage tube. If too much of the stomach tube is passed, it will result in kinking and obstruct the flow of liquid.

Next, use lukewarm water to flush out ingesta in the space between the stomach tube and the wall of the lavage tube.

A couple of useful hints in aiding the flushing process are: 1) moving the water tube back and forth while flushing; 2) gentle compression on the stomach area will quicken the emptying. This should take an average of 10-15 minutes.