

Mulberry



Meet Mulberry! He is a male grey seal pup. He was found on the 3rd of April in Rosslare Harbour, Co. Wexford. Sadly, it was already dark when we got the call, so we had to wait till morning to go check on him.



With laboured breathing and looking underweight and dehydrated, Mulberry definitely needed the care of Seal Rescue Ireland. One of our local volunteers kept an eye on him while two of our interns headed down to rescue him. When they first tried to catch him, he slipped back into the water. But poor little Mulberry was very sick and didn't have the energy to swim for long. He came back out, and our team successfully rescued him.

Upon admission, Mulberry was dehydrated, very congested and coughing. He also has an area of hair loss on his head and neck. Mulberry was underweight at 23.85kg. He is about 4 to 6 months old, and should weigh at least 35kg. He had bloody nasal discharge and was passing worms in his stool, indicating that he has been badly infected with parasites, both lungworms and intestinal parasites. Mulberry was started right away on tube feedings of electrolyte solution to get him re-hydrated.

Mulberry was given a course of deworming medications as well as antibiotics to treat his respiratory infection. To try and help with his breathing and break up his heavy congestion, we gave Mulberry a decongestant medication as well as some eucalyptus steams, a natural remedy that helps clear the airways. His breathing was so bad, that we also gave him a course of dexamethasone to reduce inflammation in his lungs and allow him to breath easier.

Mulberry was initially feeling so poorly that he showed no interest in self feeding. We continued to tube feed him to keep him hydrated and give him vitamins and medications. His course of treatment worked well, and on his 4th day in our care he finally started to eat some fish.

Now that he has started eating fish on his own and his congestion is clearing up, Mulberry has been moved from the ICU into his very own kennel. Here he has more space to move around, fitted out with his own bath to swim and eat in, and a heat mat that he can lay on to regulate his body temperature.

Once his symptoms have fully resolved, Mulberry will move to the pools. This phase will play an important part in his development. Here he will have plenty of space to swim and build muscle and compete with other pups for food. Mulberry will



stay in the pool until he is nice and fat, then he will be released into the sea!

**Thank you for
your generous
support!**