

## **My Beloved Beagle Badly Burned By A Shock Collar – June 2015**

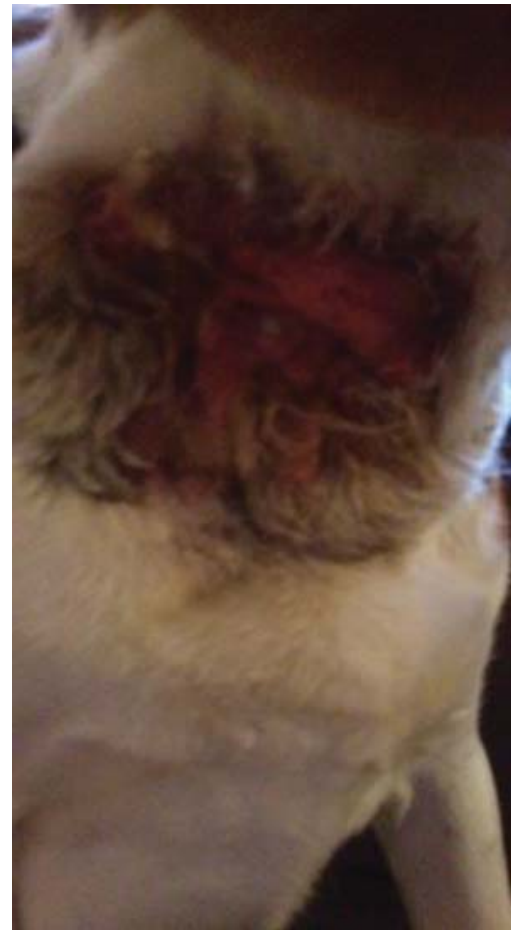


We have an 8 year old beagle named Mina. When I became pregnant, she started acting up a lot - getting into things she normally wouldn't, going to the bathroom in the house, snapping at us when we would try to discipline her. My ex abused her and ever since, she's been incredibly stubborn in her way. We tried everything, even giving her away. However, my husband Trevor and I couldn't do it. We cried in the car, got halfway to the Humane Society and turned around. I'm surprised we got that far! She is a big part of our family, we consider her a first child. We went to the pet store at the mall on, here in Ottawa. They instructed us to get a shock collar they had on sale for retraining Mina. My husband was at his wit's end with her and with a new baby, I was just too exhausted to constantly be disciplining her. So, we figured it was a last resort. We bought the collar and put it on Mina. She was fine for about a month. We bought the smallest shock collar they sold, for dogs that are 3.6kg-18kg. Mina is over 19kg, she weighs about 50lbs. She's a big girl for a beagle! We took all precautions with the pet remote training collar. It says it's waterproof but we still took it off Mina when she went out in the rain. It came with a remote, it wasn't a bark collar.

The remote's setting goes up to 7, we used it at 2 or 3. We used it at 4 twice, when Mina ruined our daughter's things. We never pressed it when we were close to her. We followed all instructions, and then some! Friday, May 15, at around 8:30am, we shocked Mina for going pee and poop in the house. We didn't shock her again for the entire day.

We put our daughter down for a nap in the afternoon, came downstairs and there was a smell. We searched the house, wondering what the smell was. We actually thought it was a dead rodent, as our house gets mice. We then noticed Mina shaking her head. She did this when she had an ear infection as a puppy. That's the only time she had ever been "hurt." I brought her up on the couch and checked her ears and they were fine. I pet her and she put her head up, and I freaked out when I saw it! Mina's neck was bubbling. We took the collar off her and realized a lot of her fur was missing. The smell we were looking for was the smell of Mina's hair and skin burning. Mina now suffers from 2nd and 3rd degree burns on the right side of her neck. Within the burn, you can see where the two prongs from the collar got burnt directly into her neck. She is on pain medication as well as antibiotics and we are cleaning the wound whenever she comes in from outside (we have gravel in our backyard and she likes to go under the deck).

Today was the first day Mina showed signs of improvement. Up until this afternoon, she whined the entire day and night unless she was sleeping. Second degree burns are the most painful. We feel absolutely awful. Upon doing research while searching how to treat Mina's burn before going to the vet online, I discovered burns from shock collars are common. In fact, they are very common.



*Mina's injury before the vet shaved the area*

In fact, they are very common. This is when I decided I wanted to support a "movement" to have all shock collars banned in Canada! I want Mina to be the last dog that ever receives a burn from a shock collar!



I owe my life to this dog, if it weren't for her unconditional love, I probably wouldn't be here today. Because of that, and what happened to Mina, I will do what I can to ensure no dog ever has to endure what she has! The least I can do for her! She is the sweetest, most loving dog...and, as the vet said, "she is one strong girl!"

*There is a great deal of pain and Mina is being treated with painkillers and antibiotics.*

Mina's family  
Ontario Canada

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