Tick Fever

This pet has a condition called ehrlichia, or tick fever. The disease is transmitted via a bite of an infected tick. Clinical sings can include lethargy, joint pain, bleeding issues such as bruising and nose bleeds, and anemia. Tick fever is not contagious from dog to dog, or from dog to other animals.

Treatment of tick fever includes oral antibiotics for a month to kill off the parasite in the blood stream. Some dogs may require regular checks of their red blood cell count to evaluate for anemia. Generally these pets need to have a blood cell count 30 days after starting meds.

Foster care would include giving oral meds to the dog, and providing basic pet care. It is recommended to not allow too much rough play/activity, as these pets may be prone to bruising/bleeding. If at any time the dog seems to have difficulty breathing, has pale mucus membranes or you see any bruising, red spots on the gums, or active bleeding, contact Second Chance Animal Hospital ASAP.