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Rhodes Vet Clinic

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Newsletter

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Cryptosporidium parvum

The dreaded finding in a calf scour is the word Crypto.

This beastly is a coccidian intestinal parasite. You may not know that anything that is a coccidian produces Oocysts (eggs). These oocysts are nasty little eggs as they are very hard to eradicate from the shed, flooring, walls, dirt and environment. Once they are out into the big world the egg is all but indestructible. The oocyst can persist in the environment for a very long time.

We usually see the calf with diarrhoea from the age of a week to three weeks. It is often a watery faeces and severe dehydration. To diagnose this diarrhoea from other neonatal diarrhoea, one should run a faecal test, either on farm or in the clinic.

If left untreated the disease persists for 7 to 15 days. It spreads rapidly through the calf shed and can have a mortality rate of up to 25%.

The only treatment and prevention is Halocur in conjunction with trying to manage contamination of oocysts to other calves. Isolating the affected group and applying COVID like strict hygiene (hand washing, changing boots/overalls, isolating) will help reduce spread. Immediately treating all newborn calves with Halocur will reduce infection.



We provide:

- Surgery & Medicine for small and large animals
- Herd Health Advice
- Cattle Pregnancy Testing
- Bull Fertility Testing
- Lameness in Cattle
- Equine Consults
- Soft Tissue & Orthopaedic Surgery
- Dentistry
- Digital X-ray
- Ultrasound
- In House Blood Testing
- Nutrition



ANIMAL FUN FACTS:

- Wombat poo is cube shaped
- Koalas sleep for approximately 20 hours a day
- Many of the world's most poisonous snakes can be found in Australia
- When Alpacas give birth it is called unpacking
- Baby echidnas are called puggles

Simpson Office:

Please call 5232 2111

Colac Office:

Our Colac Office is open

Monday to Friday

8am to 6pm

Saturday 9am to 12 noon

www.rhodesveterinaryclinic.com.au

**We are available 24/7
for emergencies.**

**Our emergency number
is:**

5232 2111

Behavioural Issues

Over the past 12 months, the COVID – 19 Pandemic caused dramatic changes to our lives. It has not just affected us humans, but also our pets. It has highlighted the importance of the human – animal bond and the impact it has on our mental health. It has resulted in an increase the number of behaviour related cases being brought into veterinary clinics across Australia.

Cats and dogs typically present for the following problems:

- Aggression
- Elimination/house soiling problems
- Nuisance barking
- Compulsive disorders (OCD)
- Anxiety disorders
- Digging
- Jumping up at people
- Management issues



Both cats and dogs are being affected during these unprecedented times, however cats appear to be coping much better with “lockdown” than dogs. Irrespective of how well your pet is coping during pandemic their behaviour is influenced by genetics, experiences, and the environment.

Genetics: There is a strong negative correlation between body size and unwanted behaviours (OCD, separation anxiety and urine marking) for both cats and dogs. Female dogs are reported to have more phobias and a higher demand for affection while male dogs demonstrate immature and inappropriate behaviours.

Experience: There are some factors predispose certain individuals. Senior pets are less tolerant to changes in their routines, making them more likely to be distressed. Newly adopted pets may have experienced upheavals in their lives therefore it is important to reduce the stress of transition into a new household with new routines. Pets with existing behaviour issues are more sensitive to anxiety inducing events.

Environment: A pet’s environment (inside and outside) is reflected in their behaviour. Pets that live in a calm environment are more likely to be more chilled/tolerant of changes compared to a pet that lives in a very stressful home. It does not help that pet’s mimic their owner’s behaviour and emotions. If you are stressed you can be stressing out your pet.

Management: The management plan involves the education & modification of the owner’s behaviour, change to the pet’s environment, changes of the pet’s behaviour and pharmacological therapy.

It does not help that the most common drug used to managed stress and anxiety in your pets is the same one utilised for human stress and anxiety. Due to the added burden of the Pandemic the drug companies cannot compete with the demand.

There are no quick fixes for behavioural problems. Once the problem arises it can take months to years for it to be resolved, if at all.

2021 RVC AFL Ladder at the end of Round 11:					
1.	Tim	72	6.	Dean	70
2.	Alan	71	7.	Ellis	70
3.	Cindy	71	8.	Janine	70
4.	Shannon	71	9.	Kosta	70
5.	Colin	70	10.	Scott	69

