

**November  
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# Rhodes Vet Clinic

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**Newsletter**

## Mammary Tumor

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic  
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October was the month for breast cancer awareness and we have had at least five female dogs with lumps in their mammary tissue.

Four of the five dogs were not spayed and were older dogs from aged 8 to 13 years old. The lumps ranged in size from the size of a marble up to the size of a tennis ball.

An entire bitch definitely has a higher risk of developing mammary lumps. Most of the time lumps grow due to the hormones produced by the ovaries. It is recommended that when we go into surgery to remove the lumps we also perform an ovariectomy, which removes the ovaries and helps prevent more lumps from reoccurring.

It is one of the reasons why we urge our clients to desex their animals early if they are not going to breed with them. Helping prevent lumps forming significantly reduces their risk of becoming terminally ill.

Our fifth dog that was desexed had a benign tumor located in only one nipple. The rest of the entire bitches all had multiple lumps and in multiple nipples. They were also nasty and aggressive.

Surgery to remove mammary lumps is difficult, as the area is very vascular but the results are excellent. All the dogs responded well to their surgeries and showed a significant improvement in their overall health.



### 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

## Pink Up Colac Fundraiser

We would like to thank everyone who donated and went into the draw of the Pink Up Colac fundraiser with over \$500 raised for the foundation.

The lucky winner of the hamper was Pauline T we hope Ruby enjoys her gifts.



**Simpson Office:**

Please call 5232 2111

[www.rhodesveterinaryclinic.com.au](http://www.rhodesveterinaryclinic.com.au)

**Colac Office:**

Monday to Friday  
8am to 6pm  
Saturday 9am to 12 noon

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

**Our emergency number  
is: 5232 2111**

## Laminitis

With the grass growing at a rapid rate a lot of our horses are showing signs of Laminitis (founder). This is associated with the amount of glucose in the fresh grass. The outcome of having too much glucose circulating the horse's body is that the horse may develop sore feet and with that soreness the horse presents with the classic signs of founder. A sign your horse maybe foundering can be the crest of the horse becoming very firm, even rock hard and looking like a yachts sail. The horse may also struggle to walk and because all four feet are sore causing them to stand on the back heels in a characteristic pose of a "saw" horse.

It is very important to take these animals off the green grass and restrict them to poor quality hay that has been soaked overnight. Soaking the hay rids the hay of any glucose and so reduces the amount metabolised. Anti-inflammatories are also important to reduce any pain associated with Laminitis.



We now have the ability to reduce glucose in our horses. A new treatment has been developed that helps prevent the production of insulin. Insulin is the hormone that carries glucose into the cells. Restricting the glucose from circulating the body aids in preventing the horse from foundering.

A blood test will need to be taken to measure the insulin levels in the blood and if the levels are too high then the horse can be placed on medications to help bring the insulin levels back to a healthy range.

Improvements in the horse's ability to walk comfortably can normally be seen within 2 to 4 weeks.

## HOW TO WALK A HUMAN

### *A Dog's Guide*

Humans need exercise  
If they don't get it they become "chubby"  
It's up to you to save them

1. Allow your human to tether themselves to you. This keeps them from wandering off or running away.
2. Your human probably needs breaks. Be considerate and stop and sniff often.
3. When you go to the bathroom, walk away. If you have trained your human correctly, they will pick it up. Good aerobics.
4. Periodically drag your human as fast as you can, this is called interval training.
5. Do not allow your human to shorten the walk. They are being lazy. Sit in protest if you must.
6. Once you are home allow your human to remove their tether, then lick their face any times for a job well done!

