

**June
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Rhodes Vet Clinic

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Newsletter

Lumpy Skin Disease

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Lumpy skin disease is a viral disease in cattle that causes relatively low mortality. However the disease can result in animal welfare issues and significant production losses.



This infection typically causes an acute disease with fever, depression and characteristic skin nodules. There may also be a marked reduction in a milk yield as well as abortion in pregnant animals.

A typical sign of cattle with lumpy skin disease are firm raised lumps. The centre of the nodules die after which the resultant scabs may fall out leaving large holes in the body that may become infected. Swelling of the limbs, brisket, genitals and lymph nodes may also occur.

Other signs of the disease may include watering of the eyes, increased nasal and salivary secretions, loss of appetite and reluctance to move.

The disease is spread by biting flies mosquitoes and ticks. It can also travel long distances through the movement of infected animals or through contaminated items including animals handling equipment, livestock vehicles as well as people's clothing and footwear. In some cases it spreads directly from animal to animal.

This information can be found on the Department of Agriculture Fisheries and Forestry website <https://www.agriculture.gov.au/biosecurity-trade/pests-diseases-weeds/animal/lumpy-skin-disease>

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



RVC Footy Tipping Ladder

At the end of round 11

- | | | |
|-----------------|---------------|----------------|
| 1. Shannon (71) | 3. Scott (70) | 5. Sharyn (68) |
| 2. Ray (71) | 4. Josh (68) | 6. Len (67) |

Simpson Office:

Please call 5232 2111

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**

Surgery after care

Aftercare post surgery on your pet is very important. If aftercare instructions are not properly complied with, all our hard work doing the surgery may be immediately undone.

A spey requires an incision into the abdominal cavity of the female. This is then stitched so the wound can close over and heal. The wound usually takes 10 to 14 days to heal. Therefore, it is imperative for the female to stay quiet during this time!

Letting the female free range in the backyard and playing with friends is not the way to go for recovery. The stitches will not hold the tissue in place when it is being stretched to breaking point which can be a result of jumping, running etc.

To put it into prospective, it is comparable to asking you or your partner to get up and play a game of sport immediately after having a caesarean.

Surgery needs time to recover, It is very important to keep the female in an enclosed area such as a bathroom, small shed, cage or a pen where it can be kept warm, clean and dry.



Stitches may also be compromised if the animal is able to lick at them. This can cause trauma to the skin and we may then have a wound breakdown resulting in additional vet expenses such as re-stitching the surgery site.

Applying Dimethyl Phthalate to the site can help deter the animal from licking as it is quite bitter to taste, although for some pets it is not enough it deter your pet from licking. Some pets are required to wear a cone as this restricts the animal from being able to reach the stitches.



Dr Mike will be taking a well-deserved break from Saturday, 1st July.

Dr Leigh Moyle will arrive to cover for Mike from Monday, 10th July.

With no Vet in the clinic from 1st to the 10th July the authorisation of any S4 prescription medications will be strictly prohibited.

Please arrange authorisation prior to the 1st of July for any regular prescription medications you will require over these 10 days.

During this time the Clinic will be open 10am - 2pm Monday - Friday & 9am - 12noon Saturday.

We will be available for future appointments, medication collection, flea and worm treatments, diets and any other over-the-counter supplies.

Our normal service & medication orders will resume on Monday 10th July.

Thank you for your understanding and patience during this time as we allow our hard working Dr Mike to enjoy a holiday.