

June
2024

Rhodes Vet Clinic

Volume 14
Issue 6

Newsletter

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Vaginal Prolapse In Dogs

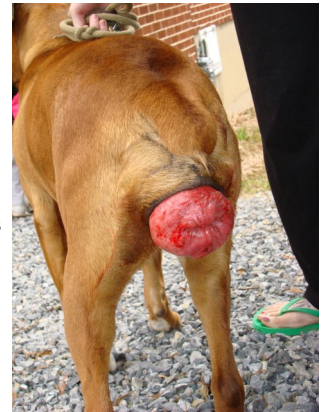
Vaginal prolapse or vaginal hyperplasia, is a condition where the inner lining of a female dog's vagina protrudes outward through the vaginal opening. This can occur for various reasons and is more common in intact female dogs, particularly those who have not been spayed.

Causes of Vaginal Prolapse

Hormonal Changes: Fluctuations in hormone levels, particularly during the "heat" cycle, can contribute to the weakening of the tissues supporting the vagina.

Reproductive Conditions: Dogs that have gone through multiple pregnancies or have had difficulty during labor may be at higher risk.

Trauma: Injury to the pelvic region or excessive straining during defecation or urination can also lead to vaginal prolapse.



Symptoms of Prolapse:

Visible Protrusion: The most obvious sign is the protrusion of pink or red tissue from the vaginal opening.

Discomfort or Pain: Dogs may exhibit signs of discomfort or pain, such as licking the area excessively or difficulty sitting.

Difficulty Urinating or Defecating: The prolapsed tissue can interfere with normal bodily functions, leading to difficulty in urination or defecation.

Treatment Options:

Veterinary Examination: If you suspect your dog has a vaginal prolapse, it's crucial to seek veterinary care promptly. Your vet will conduct a thorough examination to confirm the diagnosis and assess the severity of the prolapse.

Surgical Intervention: For more severe cases or if the prolapse reoccurs, surgical intervention may be necessary. Surgery aims to repair and reinforce the weakened tissues supporting the cervix, reducing the risk of recurrence.

Spaying: In cases where vaginal prolapse is recurrent or associated with hormonal fluctuations, spaying may be recommended. Spaying eliminates the hormonal fluctuations associated with the oestrus cycle, reducing the likelihood of future prolapse episodes.

Prevention:

Spaying: Spaying your female dog before her first heat cycle significantly reduces the risk of vaginal prolapse and other reproductive issues.

Vaginal prolapse in dogs can be distressing for both the pet and the owner, but with timely veterinary intervention and appropriate treatment, most cases can be effectively managed, allowing your furry friend to lead a happy and comfortable life. If you notice any signs of vaginal prolapse in your dog, don't hesitate to consult your veterinarian for guidance and support.

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

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

Avian Influenza

Bird flu, or avian influenza, is a highly contagious viral infection primarily affecting birds. The more severe form, caused by highly pathogenic avian influenza (HPAI) viruses, can lead to severe symptoms and even death in domestic poultry. On the other hand, the milder form caused by low pathogenic avian influenza (LPAI) viruses often shows minimal symptoms in poultry and can sometimes go unnoticed, though it may still result in some deaths. Domestic birds like poultry, ducks, geese, turkeys, guinea fowl, quail, pheasants, emus, and ostriches are particularly vulnerable to avian influenza, while many wild bird species, such as waterfowl and seabirds, can carry the LPAI virus without showing any signs of illness.

Spread of the avian influenza virus primarily occurs through wild birds, which are considered the natural hosts for the virus. While some wild birds in Australia may carry LPAI without displaying symptoms, infected birds shed the virus through saliva, nasal secretions, and faeces. The virus can sometimes spill over from wild birds into domestic bird populations. This transmission can happen either through direct contact between wild and domestic birds or indirectly through contamination of domestic bird feed or water by wild birds.

Symptoms of avian influenza in birds can include sudden death, respiratory issues like noisy or rapid breathing, coughing, and sneezing, as well as conjunctivitis, head swelling, purple discoloration of the comb and wattles, reduced food and water intake, decreased egg production, ruffled feathers, lethargy, closed eyes, diarrhea, and various neurological signs such as twisted neck, inability to fly or stay upright, uncoordinated movement, and partial or full paralysis.

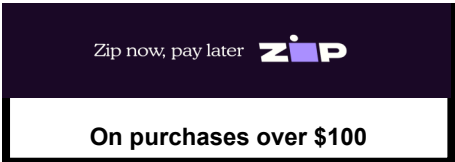
Protecting backyard birds from avian influenza requires implementing stringent biosecurity measures. This includes restricting access to water sources, securely storing litter and feed, maintaining hygiene, quarantining new birds, limiting visitor access and managing water sources to avoid contamination by wild birds.

You can stay up to date with avian influenza by visiting the Agriculture Victoria website <https://agriculture.vic.gov.au>



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You may have noticed a few new faces in the clinic over the past few months.

We welcome Dr. Ness & Dr. Caz who have been consulting here in the clinic on Tuesdays & Wednesdays.



Thank you once again to Ben Rhodes who completed his veterinarian university placement with us in May.



RVC Footy Tipping Ladder

At the end of round 12

1. Josh (75)
2. Megan (74)
3. Sharyn (73)
4. Tracy (72)
5. Kylie (71)
6. Ellie (71)