

**September
2024**

Rhodes Vet Clinic

**Volume 15
Issue 9**

Newsletter

Rhodes Veterinary Clinic
74 Gellibrand Street
COLAC 3250
P: 03 5232 2111
E: info@rhodesvet.com.au

Veterinarians:

Dr Michael Rhodes
Dr Ness Edwards
Dr Caz Simpson
Dr Ben Rhodes

Practice Manager:
Cindy Schoell

Nurses:

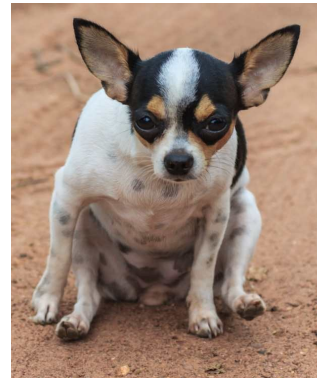
Kirsty Paton
Amanda Fisk
Beth Callahan

Why is my dog Scooting?

Dog scooting is when a dog drags its rear along the ground. This is usually a sign of discomfort or irritation around the anus. The most common cause is anal gland impaction, where the anal glands fail to empty properly due to issues like constipation or diarrhoea. This buildup can create pressure and pain, leading the dog to scoot for relief. Other common reasons for scooting may include anal sac infections or abscesses, internal parasites (tapeworm & round worms), external parasites (fleas & ticks), allergies and in some rare cases, tumours and cysts near the anal area may be responsible. Any of these may present as a painful redness and swelling, sometimes with pus, and/or itchiness. They usually require veterinary treatment.

To manage mild cases, start with some home remedies, which may include expressing the dogs anal glands (can be done by a vet or trained individual), using a broad-spectrum dewormer and maintaining flea and tick prevention all year round. Applying a soothing cream like aloe vera or a warm compress, can reduce any mild irritation. Adding pumpkin to your dogs diet can also help regulate digestion and support natural anal gland expression. Other things to make sure of are that your dog is drinking plenty of water, exercising regularly and is kept cleaned and groomed, especially around the anal area.

If scooting continues after these steps, or if you notice bleeding, discharge, or signs of pain, consult your veterinarian. While occasional scooting isn't always serious, frequent or intense scooting usually indicates an underlying health issue. Identifying and treating the cause—whether it's anal glands, parasites, or allergies—is key to relieving your dog's discomfort and preventing complications.



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

And that's a wrap for the 2025 footy tipping season. Thank you again for participating in the fun over the last 15 years. That was Cindy's final season. Someone from RVC will be in touch with you all prior to that start of next season.. Good Luck to those who still have teams in the finals.



Congratulations to our winners

1 st	Josh	157
2 nd	Sharyn	155
3 rd	Emma	154
2 nd to last	Beth	114

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**

Respiratory Disease

As discussed previously in the recent months, respiratory disease in large animals is still increasing. With the changing seasons we have noticed a large number of animals with upper respiratory tract infections that have led to more severe cases of pneumonia.



The classic signs for URTI in animals are a reduction in food intake, the animal will stand away from other animals & may or may not have a nasal discharge.

There are two types of nasal discharge:

1. The nose may have a clear trickle from either nostril or from both. This is usually caused by a virus which has been passed on by another infected animal. It is very useful to have a thermometer to check the animals temp. If the temp is heading to low 40's, it is important that this animal is kept away from other animals to stop the spread of disease. Treatment is required & this may include antibiotics if the animal gets a secondary bacterial infection. Usually a course of nonsteroidal anti-inflammatories will help reduce the temperature & make the animal feel better while the animal's own immune system kicks in to rid the virus from the animal. Therefore with viral infections it is more a support and management type of treatment.
2. Mucopurulent e.g. coloured snot. The colour of the snot can give an idea of which bacteria has infected the animal. In the case of bacterial infection one will find the temp in the 39°C range. These animals will need systemic treatment which may require multiple intravenous injections to fight the infection. It is best to find out what bacteria is causing the problem to use the correct drugs.

When the URTI migrates down the trachea & lodges in the lung, this is when we call the problem pneumonia. This is a much harder disease to treat. As it is very difficult to fight an infection in the lungs, it requires high dose antibiotics for a longer time. The problem with severe pneumonia is being able to deliver enough antibacterials to the animal for a long time. The result of stopping the infection may not stop the damage the infection has done to the lung tissue. This is repaired by the body as scar tissue which affects the function of the lung and can lead to ongoing problems into the future.

Thus, keep an eye on your animals. If you think there is a respiratory problem, act sooner rather than later.

To keep up to date with the clinic latest news please follow our social media pages.



RVC—Rhodes Veterinary Clinic



@rhodes_vet_clinic



20% OFF

Desexing & Vaccinations.

Cut coupon and bring to Clinic at time of consultation to receive 20% off.

To be paid at time of consultation