

Babies!

For dogs and cats, from Week 3-4 onwards, pregnancy ultrasounds can be completed to check that there are puppies developing normally

In the final days of pregnancy, a pregnancy x-ray lets us count puppies so that everyone can relax once the final pup is out safely!

Birth assistance

Some dogs will give birth naturally without fuss, while others need help. If your dog has needed a caesarean previously, it is more likely to need a caesarean again. Some people will elect to book in for elective caesareans based on the timings of previous tests— please book in after the confirmation ultrasound if this is your plan

Puppy health

We recommend worming pups every 2 weeks from 2 weeks of age. Puppy health checks are important for identifying issues such as cleft palates, heart murmurs, and other congenital issues. We can health check pups of any age. Often the first check is at 6 weeks to coincide with the first vaccination and microchipping.



MAIN HOSPITAL

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OR find us on Facebook!

BRANCHES

Molong Veterinary Clinic

89 Bank St,
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Parkes Veterinary Clinic

203/A Clarinda Street,
PARKES, NSW 2870
PH: 02 6865 5110

OPENING HOURS

MONDAY—FRIDAY
8.30AM—5.30PM

SATURDAY:
8.30AM—12.00PM

EMERGENCY AFTER HOURS SERVICE

Email: orangevet@orangevet.com.au

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Breeding your pet



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So, thinking of breeding your pet?

We have many years of experience in reproduction, and can help you along the way, from pre-breeding assessments to check that your pet is in ideal shape to breed from, through to assisted insemination, caesarians, and puppy care.

When thinking about breeding your pet, it is important to think about what that entails. Some key things to consider include:

- Pre-breeding health assessment
- DNA testing
- Breed appropriate x-rays: eg spine, hips
- Preventative health, i.e. vaccines and parasite prevention
- Appropriate weight and nutrition
- Dog preparedness– do the sperm swim?
- Consider insemination technique
- Appropriately time progesterone and vaginal cytology
- Pregnancy ultrasound and puppy count x-rays
- Birthing assistance
- Puppy health checks, vaccinations, worming and microchipping

Pre breeding health assessment

This is a veterinary consultation to check temperament, teeth, hernias, appropriate reproductive organs, and physical health attributes. We will check the nares and breathing. Pets that need surgery for breathing or other genetic issues are not good breeding candidates.

DNA tests, X-rays + further tests

You can find the recommended breed-specific tests at the Orthopaedic Foundation for Animals website (it covers more than just bone issues!). Tests are recommended for both parents.

A small DNA sample is taken and sent to an external lab through a company called Orivet. You can get the test done yourself and your veterinarian can interpret it. It is important to remember that not all problems are identified via DNA tests, eg or hernias or dental issues.

X-rays can be arranged at the appropriate time for the issues being assessed. Sometimes the images are sent for external validation.

Getting mum ready

Mum should be vaccinated BEFORE getting pregnant to protect newborn puppies before they can be vaccinated. We are limited with the vaccines that we can give pregnant dogs. We recommend worming mum every 2 weeks through pregnancy as worms can cross the placenta and cause serious issues in new puppies.

Mum should be at her ideal weight before pregnancy– not fat or skinny. During pregnancy, from week 5, she should be fed puppy food to have enough calcium on board for a healthy and natural birthing.

Getting dad ready

Dad contributes half of the genetics, and we recommend he have all of the same checks as the mother. It is a good idea to check his semen quality as well to ensure that the sperm are likely to achieve pregnancy when we get the timing is right.

Insemination options

Mating can be done naturally with letting pets together for days at a time to figure things out for themselves. This is usually the best option for cats. Dogs can be bred in the same way, or introduced for briefer periods if testing suggests fertility is optimal. Fresh artificial insemination can be done here, or you may choose to take your pets elsewhere for the special equipment needed for transcervical insemination.

Progesterone + Vaginal cytology

We can assist with progesterone levels from doing tests in house. Vaginal cytology samples can also be taken, and are really useful for predicting timing for elective caesareans. Let our vets know early on if that is on your plan.

