False Pregnancy

What is False Pregnancy?

False pregnancy is a complicated hormonal and emotional problem which can be greatly affected by your pet's environment. Treatment with drugs often is not sufficient on its own, so here are a few things that can be done at home to help your pet get through the false pregnancy. If your bitch is sent home with medication, it will be a brand variation of the drug cabergoline which inhibits the production of prolactin which, is the hormone which causes milk production.

- Avoid showing signs of physical affection towards your dog. If she seeks affection, a pat on the head is as much as you should allow. Do not show her too much attention such as, letting her sit with you. We advise taking her on long walks which occupy her without physical involvement.
- If she has a special bond with another dog or cat in the household, they should be separated if possible. A bitch who feels rejected by her owner may transfer her affections to another animal which she has previously not been interested in.
- Decrease the size of her meals by up to 50%. This is especially important if she is producing milk, as milk production will stop faster if she is fed just enough for her own requirements and no more.
- If she 'nests' or scratches the carpet in a particular spot, she should be prevented from gaining access to that area by moving furniture or covering it. She may change to another area but restricting her will break up the behaviour pattern and it is less likely to be as strong if it reappears at all.
- If she has a bed or blanket in a particular place, change its position every day. Do not let her think of any place as 'safe' or 'home'. If she has a blanket, change it for paper bedding.
- Remove all toys, especially squeaky rubber ones and any inanimate objects she is attracted to. These can include balls, cushions, draught excluders, bones etc. This stops her nesting with these as she is likely to see them as her 'babies'.

Contact Information

Telephone (24 hour Emergency Line): 01472 347054 Telephone (Office hours): 01472 362821 Telephone (Office hours): 01472 240422



You should be aware that repeated false pregnancy will put your dog at a very high risk of developing pyometritis. A pyometra is a serious condition, where an accumulation of pus occurs in the womb which is fatal if untreated. Please discuss with us when it is going to be best for you to book your bitch in to be spayed, as this will stop this condition developing.

FOLLOW UP APPOINTMENT

Write appointment time and which surgery it is booked in for below.



Please let us know if you are unable to attend the above appointment and we will arrange an alternative day/time.