

HERVEY BAY VETERINARY SURGERY

Owner Information Series

GDV- Gastric Dilatation-Volvulus also known as **Bloat.**

A disease in dogs in which the stomach fills with gas and/or fluid (known as “gastric dilatation”), and rotates around (known as “volvulus”).

Species

- Dogs. Any large, deep-chested breed.

SIGNS/OBSERVED CHANGES IN THE PET

- Vomiting, which often progresses to “dry heaves”
- Anxious behavior
- Abdominal pain
- Abdominal distention; however, distended stomach may be contained under ribs, in which case abdominal distention may not be seen
- Collapse
- Drooling or excessive salivation.
- Depression
- Rapid heart rate.
- Rapid breathing or difficulty breathing.
- Weak pulses; pale gums.

CAUSES

- Unknown.
- Gulping food and exercising directly afterward is a known risk a factor.

Treatment

**THIS DISEASE REPRESENTS AN EMERGENCY! PLEASE
CONTRACT YOUR VET IMMEDIATLEY.**

Treatment consists of a surgery to stitch the stomach back into place and unwind the obstructed bowel.

Home care.

After a routine day or two in hospital to recover, it is recommended that your pooch have strict rest for a **minimum** of 2 weeks following the surgery.

A diet modified to Hills i/d wet food **only**. And strict no exercise 2hrs after eating. Antibiotics and pain relief will also be provided at the veterinarians discretion as well as regular check ups during this time.