



PERIPARTURIENT DISEASES IN THE BITCH

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Objectives

The aim of this project is for dog owners to know what it means to have a pregnant bitch. Give them the knowledge about the normal progress of pregnancy, delivery and postpartum and which are the most frequent pathologies that can occur along the peripartum.

There are different pathologies depending on the stage: Pathologies related to pregnancy Pregnancy toxemia Diabetis mellitus II (ketosis) $\uparrow P_4$ Negative Antagonizes GH energy insuline balance Illustration 1 Pathophysiology of these pathologies. Abbreviations: CH = carbohydrates; $P_4 = Progesterone$; GH = Growth hormoneDystocia It is useful to estimate when the bitch got pregnant and to know when the delivery had started because it will make easier the identification of a dystocia. Predisposing factors for dystocia can be maternal or fetal. Illustration 2 Fetal presentations, postures ans positions. Johnston, S. D. & Root Kustritz, M. V. & Olson, P. N. S. (2001). Canine parturition. In: Canine and Feline Theriogenology. Saunders. Philadelphia. pp 111.

Postpartum pathologies Depression, fever, little or no interest in puppies, lethargy and a **Metritis** purulent reddish-brown vulvar discharge that has a bad odor. Depression, fever and anorexia. The mammary gland increases in Acute size and becomes hot and painful; mastitis the milk is more viscous and undergoes changes in color. Agalactia No milk production or secretion. **Subinvolution** No other clinical sign other than haemorrhagic vulvar discharge of placental 3 weeks after delivery. sites (SIPS) Nervousness, mydriasis, hyperthermia, dry mouth, panting, Hypocalcemia restlessness, whining, stiffness. Illustration 3 Clinical signs of each postpartum pathology

Conclusions

It is useful to know each of these pathologies and when do they more often occur to be able to act early in case of any of them happens.

Due to all these pathologies it is clear that it is necessary to take good care of the pregnant bitch.