



The Cavalier King Charles Spaniel Club UK
Peopleton, 22nd July 2023



SUMMER HEALTH SEMINAR 2023

Part 4:
Helping during Whelping
- Date of Whelping -



VetMed Tanja Schumann, Germany

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What to expect in this part ?

- Drugs and useful stuff to have ready to use
- Determining the position of the puppy
- A Puppy is stuck ...
 - Drugs that can help
 - Correcting the position of the puppy
 - Wheelbarrow Maneuver
 - Woods Maneuver
 - Possible manual support to get the puppy out
- First aid for the newborn puppy and support of breathing Drugs that can help

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Drugs and useful stuff to have ready to use

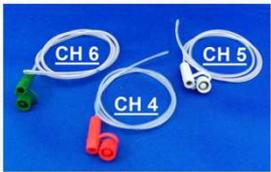
Stuff that was helpful for us over the years:

		
Umbilical clamp – reusable (NOT the ones for single use) Available for example at Amazon	Mosquito Forceps Curved or Straight	Dental Floss unwaxed
	Surgical Scissors Available for example at Amazon	

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Delee Suction Catheter (to remove amniotic fluid)	Diagnostic Lamp to check for cleft palate	Hand Disinfection
		
Umbilical Disinfection	ID Bands or non-toxic Nail Polish	Stethoscope (small head)

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 <p>Replacement Amnion Fluid / Lubricant</p>	 <p>Tubes</p>	 <p>Syringes (different sizes)</p>
 <p>Cotton gloves for getting puppy out</p>	 <p>A LOT of Towels for rubbing rough are best</p>	 <p>Incontinence Pads for single use</p>

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 <p>USB Heating Pad (for driving to the Vet)</p>	 <p>Powerbank for USB Heating Pad)</p>	 <p>SnuggleSafe Heating Pad</p>
 <p>Heating Pad (30-55 degree)</p>	 <p>Electric Kettle with temperature control</p>	 <p>Kitchen Scale (1g unit)</p>

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Silicone nipple for syringes
different brands and forms



Bottles – different brands
we have good experience with: Royal Canin Bottles, MAM Bottles (nipple size 0 or 1), Avent Bottle, Dr Brown Bottle

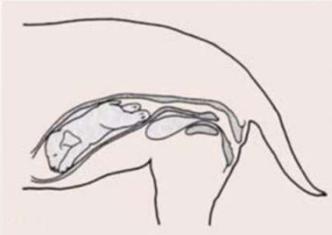


Silicone Feeding Station
Nourrinou Bibi
For Cavaliers: Red Flow
Size Medium 1 for small puppies (up to 250g)
Size Medium 2 for bigger puppies (250g+)
[www..nourrinou-bibi.fr](http://www.nourrinou-bibi.fr)

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Determining the position of the puppy

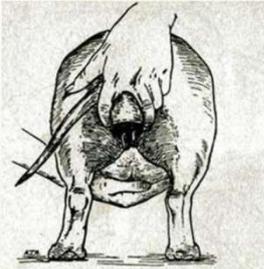
Both positions – anterior (head first) and posterior (legs first)– are normal in dogs



Your fingers are your gold !



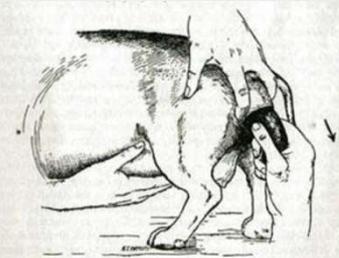
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Helping with normal positions

1. Put your girl on a table – if she tolerates
2. If you have a helper by hand he can hold the head of the girl. Easiest way is if he puts the head of the girl under its arm to be hand free and help in pushing up the abdomen with the other hand
3. Carefully use your finger to stretch the vulva
4. If head first try to hook back behind the shoulders
If hind legs first try to hook back behind the pelvis
5. Hold on firmly and wait for contraction

6. When the bitch is pushing use gentle pressure downwards (about 45 degree) to help pull while the bitch is contracting the pup will probably not come out with first contraction so keep holding on and dont let up on pressure at all – wait for next contraction and with every contraction you get puppy out a little bit more
7. To avoid slippiness use a cotton glove on the outside hand



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8. Once puppy is out, open the sac and shred the cord with your fingers, a clamp or forceps
9. Begin resuscitation while putting the puppy on a heating pad
10. First clean nose and mouth with a towel, then gentle use a Delee catheter to suck all residential fluid
11. If puppy isn't breathing or has laboured breathing use accordion method – do not swing
12. Rubb until puppy is completely dry and has normal breathing
13. Put puppy to mommy's nipples and try to let them nurse – colostrum can only be digested within the first 24-48h

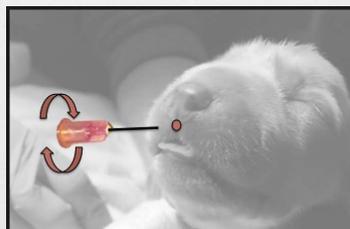
A **puppy incubator with oxygen** unit can help with weak puppies, to have a safe place for the puppies during whelping is progressing and / or for premature puppies



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First aid for the newborn puppy and support of breathing

- Rubbing, Rubbing, Rubbing – preferable on a heating pad
- Suction of amnion fluid with a Delee Catheter
- Warming up on a heating pad while still working
- Oxygen
- Drugs like Doxapram (available at your Vet) or Revivovet (Plantavet, herbal drug) help to stimulate breathing
- Dexamethasone Sodium Phosphate 2mg/ml – 1-2 drops on the tongue every 20minutes
- Acupuncture - needle in the triangle of the nose (GV26 or Governing Vessel 26 that is a pressure point)



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Normal Parameters in Newborn Puppies

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|--|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Body Temperature:
0-14 days: 35 - 37 °C
15-28 days: 36 – 37,7 °C
35 days - adult: 38,6°C• Respiration Rate:
at birth: average 12 breaths per min
7-35 days: 20-30 breaths per min
over 35 days - adult: 15-30 breaths• Heart Rate:
at birth: up to 130 beats per min
7-35 days: up to 200 beats per min
12weeks - adult: 70-100 beats• Birth weight should double in 8-10 day• Fluid requirements: 2-3 oz per pound body weight per day | <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Physical Development:
Eyes open: 7-10 days
Ear canal open: 14 days
Primary teeth through: 14-21 days
First adult round worms: 14 days
Body twitching in sleep: 0-28 days• Can see: 10-15 days
Barking: 18 days
Early play movements: 18-20 days
Stand upright: 21 days
Urinate and defecate without stimulation by bitch: 21 days
Eat from dish: 24-27 days
Walk and run: 28 days
Voluntary control of urination and defecation: 10 weeks - 4 months |
|--|--|

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A puppy a stuck - Annormal positions in the birth canal

LIVE PRESENTATION

Legs are in breech position

- Go into the vagina and try to hook back at the hind legs (one after the other) and try to correct
- Then hold on both legs firmly and try to get puppy out with every new contraction

Puppy lies across the birth canal

- **Emergency** – You can try to correct but be prepared for a Vet Visit and / or C-Section
- Go into the vagina and try to find the shoulder or the pelvis of the puppy and try to push puppy back in his uterus horn
- Then hook back at the shoulder or the hind legs (depending which position), wait for next contraction and lead the puppy in the canal to be born
- hold on both legs or the shoulders firmly and try to get puppy out with every new contraction

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LIVE PRESENTATION

Head is twisted: head lies on the chest

- Go into the vagina and find the head right at the pelvis bone
- Push with the other hand the abdomen upwards to bring the puppy in the same level than the birth canal
- Then go with your finger under the chin and correct position of the head
- hook back at the jaw, wait for next contraction and lead the puppy in the canal to be born
- hold on the shoulders firmly and try to get puppy out with every new contraction

Head is twisted: head lies to the side

- **Emergency** – You can try to correct but be prepared for a Vet Visit and / or C-Section
- In most cases puppy is dead already
- Go into the vagina, find the head and try to slide your finger past the twisted head
- Then hook back at the chin and try gently to get the head in correct position
- Due to lack of space correction is often not possible and a c-section is needed

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LIVE PRESENTATION

Puppy lies upside down in birth canal

- Go into the vagina with two fingers and find the shoulders or pelvis of the puppy depending on position
- Try to turn the puppy in correct position with every contraction
- If not possible due to lack of space – however a normal whelping is still possible

Wheelbarrow Maneuver

- Can help to bring a stuck puppy back in the uterus to correct twisted head position or when puppy lies across the birth canal
- Take the back legs of your dog and keep them upright for 5-10 minutes



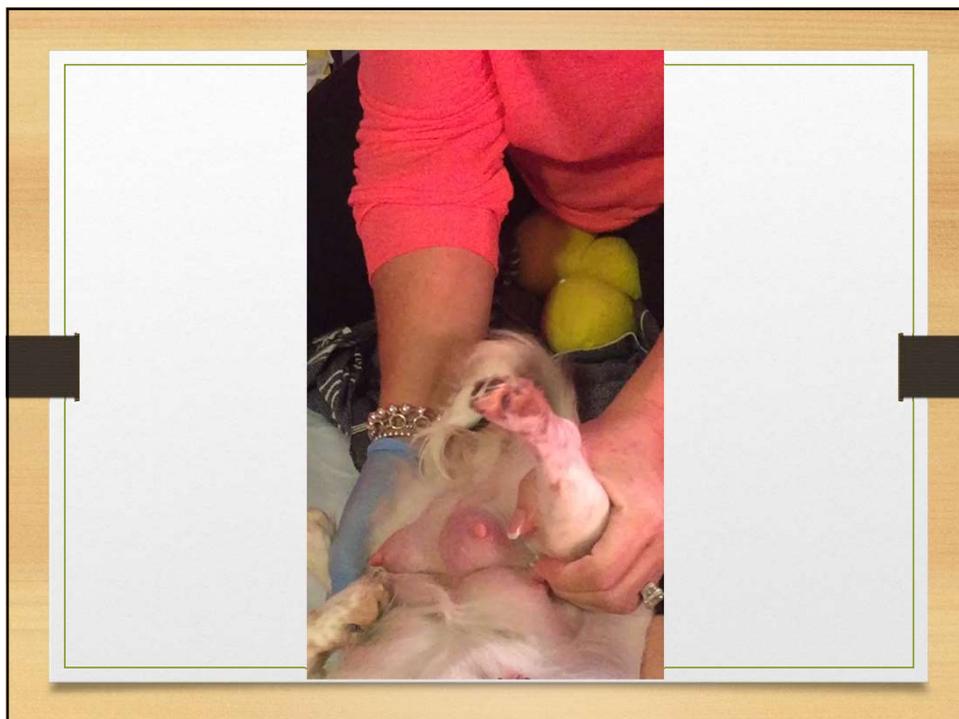
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LIVE PRESENTATION

Woods Maneuver (by Susan Patterson) Videos to be found on YouTube

- Can help when a puppy is partially delivered, but stuck
1. Bring the bitch in a back lying position, balancing her between two pillows will help to keep her positioned.
 2. Push both hind legs as far apart as you can safely push them - this is to enlarge the diameter of the pelvic opening
 3. Rotate the hip so that foot comes back more toward the head and the pelvis consequently raises up slightly - this is an important part of the maneuver....the pushing of the foot/leg toward the head which will raise the pelvis up slightly
 4. apply pressure to the abdominal area located directly behind the pubic bone while at the same time keeping mom's hind legs apart and rotated up toward the head
 5. Waiting for mom's contraction to occur, you will position mom, and apply pressure while at the same time, pulling gently on the presenting part of the puppy. You want the puppy to pass under the pubic bone and upward through the opening.

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THE END
THANK YOU !

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