

# PAYNEHAM VET CENTRE

131 Portrush Road, Evandale SA 5069  
PH: 08 8362 0831



## Post Whelping Handout

### Post Whelp Check

Post Whelp checks are advised for the bitch and pups within 24 hours.

#### **Bitch**

- Assess health post whelp.
- Ensure no more pups and if any retained placentas.
- Sometimes need clearing injection for retained placentas.

#### **Pups**

- Check no obvious congenital problems eg. Cleft palate

### Feeding

#### **Bitch**

- High energy food such as Puppy dry or canned / mince / Meatloafs
- Supplement calcium – Calcium Sandoz Liquid given twice daily, follow the dosing chart on bottle.

Calcium supplementation is very important as low calcium causes tremors and epilepsy. If the bitch starts to shake, shiver or tremble give extra dose of calcium and RING THE VET!

#### **Puppies**

The first four weeks the bitch will provide all nutrients in milk. Ensure all pups have a good suckling reflex and after they feed have a "fat belly".

Sometimes stronger pups will push out weaker pups, so you may need to rotate feeds ie. 3 at 1st sitting and 2 at 2<sup>nd</sup> sitting.

Rarely will you need to bottle feed pups. Bottle feeding may be done if bitch is unwell or not taking to pups. Vets will sell a appropriate milk supplement, bottles and instruct on proper usage.

### Weaning

Weaning starts from four weeks:

- Milk supplements
- Water
- Puppy Dry food
  - Special weaning available from Royal Canin
  - Advance Rehydratable
  - Puppy mince / canned

Expect to be weaned off teat completely by 6-7 weeks.

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## **Worming**

### **Bitch**

- Two weeks post whelp give all wormer.

### **Pups**

- Chocolate wormer e.g. Canex given at 2, 4 and 6 weeks.

## **Vaccinations**

- First vaccination is given at 6 to 7 weeks of age.
- A health check is done by the vet prior to sale of pups.
- Information sheets are given for new owners.

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