

Gastric Dilatation and Volvulus

Dr. John Berg provides step-by-step instruction on diagnosing and surgically treating gastric dilatation and volvulus in dogs.

Speaker Bio:

Dr. John Berg grew up in Southern California, Maryland, and Switzerland. Although his family always had cats, his interest in veterinary medicine did not blossom until he attended Colorado State University for his undergraduate work. He stayed at CSU for his Master of Science and veterinary degrees. Following his surgery residency, Dr. Berg spent a year in private practice south of Boston, but when a faculty position at Tufts became available in 1987, he jumped at the chance. Dr. Berg teaches in the school's Principles of Surgery and Small Animal Medicine and Surgery courses, as well as in the Problem Based Learning curriculum and the Accelerated Clinical Excellence course. While he enjoys classroom and small-group instruction, he finds hands-on instruction with fourth-year students particularly gratifying and likes watching them grow in confidence as they make supervised clinical decisions. Although he is adept at all types of small animal surgery, Dr. Berg is especially drawn to surgical treatment of cancer in animals. He is a diplomate of the American College of Veterinary Surgeons and an honorary member of the Society of Veterinary Surgical Oncology. He lives with his wife and two daughters, as well as an array of animals adopted from the Foster Hospital—including a German Shepherd, four cats, two guinea pigs, and a hermit crab. He enjoys cycling, tennis, skiing, and reading.

Learning Objectives:

1. Understand the dog-specific, environmental, and management related risk factors for gastric dilatation and volvulus.
2. Understand how to diagnose GDV based on clinical and radiographic signs.
3. Understand how to perform gastric decompression via orogastric tube or trocharization.
4. Understand the surgical procedures for correcting GDV.
5. Understand the mortality rate and potential postoperative complications associated with GDV.

Agenda:

- Risk factors for GDV
 - Dog specific
 - Age
 - Breed
 - Size
 - Male vs female

- Environmental
 - Stress
 - Weather
- Management
 - Food volume
 - Food frequency
 - Diet type
- Life time risk and benefits of prophylactic gastropexy
- Clinical signs
 - Abdominal distension
 - Retching
 - Hypersalivation
 - Depression
 - Shock
- Radiography
 - Right lateral view
- Systemic sequelae
 - Shock
 - Coagulopathy/DIC
 - Cardiac arrhythmias
 - Electrolyte/acid-base disturbances
- Gastric decompression
 - Orogastric tube
 - Lavage
 - Trocharization
 - Comparison orogastric tube vs trocharization
- Surgery
 - Always an emergency
 - Assess direction of volvulus
 - Reposition stomach
 - Assess viability of greater curvature of stomach and spleen
 - Indications for splenectomy
 - Gastric necrosis
 - Options for gastric resection
 - Referral
 - Hand sutured resection
 - Stapled resection
 - Invagination
 - Gastropexy
 - Incisional
 - Quick and effective
 - Narrated video of GDV surgery
- Mortality rate
- Pexy problems/complications