

# LOOKING AFTER YOUR GIRL

## INFORMATION ABOUT PSEUDO-PREGNANCY AND SPAYING FROM SARAH WHITEHEAD

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With thanks and credit to Sara Davies, MRCVS

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Phantom pregnancy affects ALL entire female dogs - but not all dogs show symptoms



Symptoms can be physical, behavioural or both.

**The most common physical symptoms are:**

Enlarged teats & mammary glands \* Milk production \*  
Changes in appetite \* Lethargy



**And behavioural changes include:**

Nesting & digging \* Collecting and nurturing  
objects as if they are puppies \* Aggression



**VET TREATMENT WORKS BRILLIANTLY!**

Seek veterinary advice, and work with a behaviour specialist if your vet is unfamiliar with the latest research in this area. Don't let your girl suffer!



**Spaying your female dog?**

Dogs must NOT be spayed while in a phantom pregnancy as this might cause life-long behaviour problems, including aggression. Contrary to popular opinion, the optimum time to spay is 16 weeks after the END of the season - for most dogs this is 19 weeks after the START of their season (day one of the blood-stained discharge).

Need more specialist help? Contact: