

# Veterinary Bioscience:

## Digestive System



### LECTURE 28

### WHEN THE GUT STOPS MOVING

#### LECTURER

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#### INTENDED LEARNING OUTCOMES

At the end of this lecture, you should be able to:

- explain the potential consequences of physical or functional obstruction of the intestines
- identify grossly the various types of physical intestinal obstruction and describe them using appropriate terminology
- outline the circumstances that can lead to physical or functional obstruction of the intestines in domestic animals.

#### KEY WORDS

segmental aplasia, atresia, rectal prolapse, obturation, constipation, obstipation, megacolon, phytobezoar, trichobezoar, enterolith, linear foreign body, reperfusion injury, strangulation, venous infarction, intestinal torsion, intestinal volvulus, intussusception, arterial infarction, stenosis, paralytic ileus, dysautonomia

#### LECTURE OVERVIEW

In this lecture, we will review the variety of causes of physical or functional obstruction of the intestines in domestic animals. These causes include congenital malformations, external compression of the intestines, and luminal obstruction by food, faeces, parasites, foreign bodies, scar tissue or neoplastic tissue. We will also review the variety of vascular accidents that can lead to venous or, less often, arterial infarction of bowel segments. The potential consequences of proximal versus distal intestinal obstruction will also be highlighted.

#### FURTHER READING

H. B. Gelberg. Alimentary system. In: *Pathologic Basis of Veterinary Disease*. 6th edition. Ed. J. F.

Zachary. Elsevier, St Louis, Missouri, USA (2017). pp. 324-411 (especially pp. 366-374)

F.A. Uzal, B.L. Plattner and J.M. Hostetter. Alimentary system. In: *Jubb, Kennedy and Palmer's Pathology of Domestic Animals*. 6th ed., Volume 2. Ed. M. G. Maxie. Elsevier, St Louis, Missouri, USA (2016). pp. 1-257 (especially pp. 73-86 and 100-111)