

Quick Reference Guide For GDV **BLOAT**

VET'S EMERGENCY
TELEPHONE NUMBER

VET'S ADDRESS

	WHAT IS HAPPENING	WHAT THE DOG DOES	WHAT YOU SHOULD DO	TREATMENT
FACTORS	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stress • Excitement • Vigorous exercise • Large meals • Long drink • Swallowed air • Familial tendency 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dog behaves as usual • Seems slightly uncomfortable 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Keep the dog quiet • Do not leave the dog alone • Give antacid if your vet agrees • Be aware of Phase I symptoms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this period, the dog may recover without going on to develop Gastric Volvulus
PHASE I GDV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Stomach starts to dilate (Gastric Dilatation) • Stomach twists (Gastric Volvulus) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Anxious, restless, pacing • Trying to vomit—may bring up stiff white foam but no food • Salivating • Abdomen may be swollen 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Call your vet, tell him/her what you suspect and why • Take the dog to the vet without further delay 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this period, the dog may recover if your vet releases the pressure with a stomach tube
PHASE II GDV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Blood supply to part of stomach is cut off • Stomach tissue is damaged • Portal vein, vena cava, and splenic vein become compressed and twisted • Spleen becomes engorged • Shock begins to develop 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Very restless • Whining & panting • Salivating copiously • Tries to vomit every 2-3 minutes • Stands with legs apart & head hanging down • Abdomen swollen & sounds hollow if tapped • Gums dark red • Heart rate 80-100 beats/minute • Temperature raised (104°F) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Get someone to tell your vet you are on your way and why • Take the dog to the vet as quickly as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • During this period, the vet will need to relieve the stomach pressure, start an intravenous drip, and perform surgery to un-twist the stomach
PHASE III GDV	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Spleen and stomach tissue become necrotic • Shock now very severe • Heart failure develops • Shock now irreversible • Death 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Unable to stand or stands shakily with legs apart • Abdomen very swollen • Breathing shallow • Gums white or blue • Heart rate over 100 beats/minute • Pulse very weak • Temperature drops (98°F) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Death is imminent • Get someone to tell your vet you are on your way and why • Take the dog to the vet as quickly as possible 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • As well as doing everything above, the vet will need to remove part of the stomach and the spleen. He/she will also need to use powerful drugs to counteract shock • It is no longer possible to save the dog's life