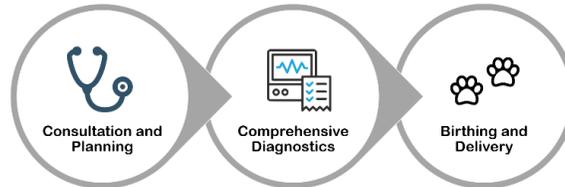


# Country Companion Animal Hospital

## Reproduction Services Overview

*Over the past 15 years, we've helped our customers successfully manage canine reproduction through a comprehensive process that integrates the latest reproductive techniques with our experienced team of reproduction experts. Our process includes:*



### Ovulation Timing and Breeding:

We perform an initial series of tests to best identify where a bitch is in her heat cycle, and hence, determine the best time to breed. The first visit is called an Initial Timing. At this visit, we complete a physical exam to ensure the bitch is healthy and can be safely bred. In addition to the physical exam, we will typically draw a progesterone blood level, collect a vaginal smear, and perform a vaginoscopy. A Brucellosis test can be drawn at this visit as well. Please make sure to bring all your vaccine records with you to this initial visit.

Our in-house progesterone system, Minividas, is an industry leading diagnostic tool designed to provide fast, accurate analysis. As the equipment is in-house, we can guarantee same day results to quickly and effectively formulate the best possible breeding plan.

Following the results of this testing, we will schedule a follow-up timing, usually 2-3 days later, with additional testing including LH tests. We may schedule multiple visits to track a bitch's heat cycle and determine the best breeding time.

During this process, we work collaboratively with breeders to determine the best breeding method and timing. We are experienced in performing artificial, transcervical, and surgical inseminations.

### C-Sections:

CCAH routinely performs both scheduled and emergency C-sections on all breeds of dogs, including bulldogs, other brachycephalic breeds and sighthounds.

Not all dogs require a C-section; most mothers are able to whelp naturally. Before scheduling a C-Section, we consider the mother's breed, previous medical/reproductive history, and location. Planned C-sections either require full ovulation timing or daily progesterone tests starting a few days before the due date. To assist in planning, we schedule an x-ray approximately one week before the due date to verify the number of puppies present, and to visually assess the health of the unborn puppies. We also draw a complete blood panel to help lower the risk of any anesthetic and/or surgical complications.

Should problems arise during the whelping process, the hospital is available during regular business hours to check fetal heart rates and ascertain if the unborn puppies are in distress via ultrasound. The veterinarians and staff are then able to perform emergency C-sections if necessary.

Post-operatively, the newborn pups are examined, sexed, marked, and weighed. Temperatures are taken to make sure the pups are warm enough to nurse. Any cleft palates or other medical issues with the pups are immediately addressed. The staff makes sure each pup successfully nurses before the litter leaves.

### Semen Storage:

In addition to our services during the reproduction cycle, we also offer on-site storage for frozen semen. Not only can semen be shipped in and out of the hospital Monday through Friday, but on the last Tuesday of every month, we schedule semen evaluation and freezing for studs. appointments can be made to have a stud's semen evaluated and frozen. We follow AKC guidelines for the collection, freezing and registration of puppies conceived from frozen semen, and maintain detailed storage records. Please contact our Reproduction team for questions about this service.