



Gastric Dilation & Volvulus Surgical Repair (GDV)

This surgical procedure involves de-rotating and decompressing the stomach followed by surgical attachment of the stomach to the inner body wall (gastropexy).

Potential Complications (during surgery and/or during recovery)

- Hemorrhage (excessive bleeding)
- Dehiscence (sutures coming undone)
- Swelling/inflammation at the incision site
- Seroma (a pocket of fluid)
- Infection
- Slow/delayed recovery

Potential Severe Complications

- Electrolyte imbalances
- Sepsis
- Peritonitis
- Gastric ischemia/necrosis (damaged/dead stomach tissue)
- Damaged splenic tissue (in some cases, the spleen also rotates)
- Shock
- Low Blood Pressure
- Gastritis
- Gastric Perforation
- Life threatening cardiac arrhythmias

Potential Anesthetic Complications

- Airway irritation
- Low blood pressure
- Hypothermia/hyperthermia
- Cardiovascular collapse
- Cardiac arrhythmias
- Respiratory depression
- Gastric reflux
- Aspiration pneumonia
- Hypoxic brain damage
- Embolism

Recovery Time

Your dog will be monitored closely during surgery, as it awakens from anesthesia, and until stabilized after surgery (this may take days). It can take up to 72 hours after surgery for irregular heartbeats to occur and up to 3 to five days for perforation or infection (sepsis) to present. The length of your dog's stay will depend on how they recover. At the time of discharge, you will receive instructions for at home care and exercise restriction.

A second surgical procedure may be needed if tissue necrotic (dead), there is evidence of concerning infection/tissue compromise, or if complications occur both during recovery, or once your dog is sent home.