

If you suspect that your bitch has mated with a dog (remember they do not need to 'tie' to become pregnant) then if you do not want puppies you will need to consider one of the following options:

### Mismating Injection (Alizin)

This is an antiprogesterone drug, licenced for the prevention of unwanted pregnancy in bitches. Two injections are required given twenty-four hours apart. If given before day 22 of a pregnancy it is likely to be 100% effective in terminating the pregnancy. It is best given after the heat (oestrus) period has ended. When used later in pregnancy it is approximately 95% effective. Physical signs of parturition (foetal expulsion, slight anorexia and milk production) may occur, so we advise bitches to be hospitalised during treatment late in pregnancy. Returning for an ultrasound scan four weeks after the injection is recommended to check that the pregnancy has been terminated.

The oestrus (heat) following Alizin injections may occur sooner than normal by one to three months.

Cost for 30kg bitch . . . . . c£240  
Consultation + two injections + fifteen minute ultrasound scan

### Spaying (Neutering)

If you do not wish to breed from your bitch, then waiting three weeks after the mismating and then arranging for your bitch to be spayed is another option. There is a small increase in surgical difficulty, especially with bleeding, in spaying a bitch at this time rather than the recommended three months after the season, but most bitches have no problems. We do advise fluids are given intravenously during the surgery for this reason (please see EVG Guide to Surgical Wound Infections leaflet also).

Spaying your bitch will terminate an unwanted pregnancy and prevent the problem happening again in the future.

Cost for 30kg bitch . . . . . c£280  
Consultation + spay + intravenous fluids (excluding medication)

### Wait and See

You may prefer to wait until four weeks after the mismating and then arrange for your bitch to have an ultrasound scan. If she is not pregnant then you will have avoided having to give any medicines. However, if she is pregnant you are left with less choice and possibly more risks in terminating a late stage pregnancy.

Cost for 30kg bitch . . . . . c£120.50\*  
Consultation + fifteen minute ultrasound scan

\* If pregnant, add costs of one of the other termination treatments.

Remember that if you decide to allow the pregnancy to proceed in your bitch, then you need to consider the costs of a caesarian section if there are whelping difficulties and the need to find good homes for the puppies.

**Please do not hesitate to contact one of our veterinary surgeons if you have any further questions.**



## Quick Reference Guide

### Mismating in Bitches



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