

# Milk composition in the broodbitch

## Does maternal body condition affect milk composition and puppy growth?

Our study aims to answer this question as we are striving to give objective and evidence-based recommendations to our clients, breeders and veterinarians. For this study, we are looking for medium to large breed bitches who are lean or overweight/obese to evaluate the effects of body condition on lactation and puppy growth.

### Participants will be asked to participate in:

- 5 separate house call or in-clinic visits through the first 4 weeks after whelping
- Weekly activity and nutrition journal
- Daily puppy weight monitoring
- Detailed monitoring of the whelping (if possible)

## Location

- All appointments will be either at the **Veterinary Teaching Hospital of Virginia-Maryland CVM** in **Blacksburg, Virginia** or as **house calls**.

## Is your dog eligible?

- 2-5 years old
- Medium to large breed
- No current medical conditions
- **No** homemade, raw diet, or fish additive diet

For more information, please scan the QR code to email Dr. Sam McCarter and Dr. Orsolya Balogh at [whelping@vt.edu](mailto:whelping@vt.edu).



Contact Us