

## Ultrasonographic Characteristics of Early Pregnancy Failure in Miniature Schnauzer Bitches

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This paper described the ultrasonographic embryological features of normal and resorbing embryos. Resorption of embryo was in 3 of 9 miniature Schnauzer bitches examined daily from 15 to 35 day after ovulation. Ovulation was estimated to occur when plasma progesterone concentration first increased above 4.0 ng/ml.

One or two embryos were resorbed in each bitch but there was continuation of the remaining embryo to term. Ultrasonographic features depended on the timing of the resorption, chronologically included development of a hypoechoic than an anechoic yolk sac, the echogenic particle with yolk sac fluid, loss of fetus fluid, inward bulging of the uterine wall, cessation of heartbeat, ambiguous margin of fetus and hypoechoic allantoic fluid. Finally, there was detaching of placenta and the escape of fetal fluid into the uterine lumen.

Resorbing embryo may be predicted by detecting a delay in the time of development of a specific embryological feature and ultrasonographic features.

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