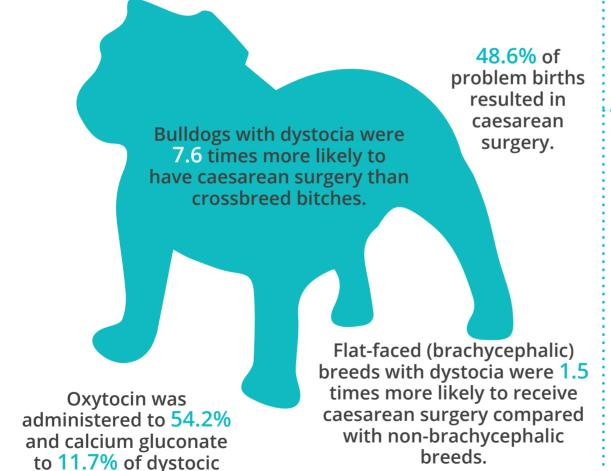
## Difficulty giving birth in dogs Clinical outcomes

This study evaluated the clinical management and outcomes of dystocia (difficulty giving birth) in bitches in the UK.

From these dystocia cases, 25% of puppies and 1.7% bitches died.

The average litter size of bitches with dystocia was 4 puppies but, on average, only 3 puppies survived.



## CONCLUSION

Giving birth carries serious health and welfare risks for both bitches and their bubbies. Seek advice from your veterinary surgeon before planning to breed from your bitch, especially for breeds with a high risk of dvstocia.

This study included 701 dystocia cases from 18,758 entire bitches attending 50 **Vets Now emergency** veterinary clinics in the UK. O'Neill, D.G. et al. (2019) "Canine dystocia in 50 UK first-opinion emergency-care veterinary practices: **Clinical management** and outcomes" **Veterinary Record** (Freely available)



bitches.

