BLOAT The Killer

This beautiful dog, Beau, would have died if his owners hadn't recognised that he had bloat and rushed him to the vet immediately.

If you experience a combination of the following:

- Your dog retches from the throat but nothing is produced, other than a small amount of frothy mucus
- Your dog tries to defaecate unsuccessfully
- Your dog adopts the 'Sphinx' position
- Your dog's tummy goes hard and / or swells up like a balloon and is as taut as drumskin
- Your dog is trying to bite, or worry, the abdomen
- Your dog is very unsettled

CONTACT YOUR VET IMMEDIATELY. Bloat is a true emergency - be prepared to drive to the surgery straightaway. The chance of survival decreases alarmingly if you delay getting the dog to the surgery more than 60-90 minutes after the first signs.

So whether you're about to catch a plane, serve a meal or go to bed - DON'T.

Take your dog to the vet.

It could save your dog's life.

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