



## **Memorial-610 Hospital for Animals**

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### **Reverse Sneezing**

Reverse sneezing is a familiar sign in dogs. It consists of short periods (1 to 2 minutes) of severe inspiratory dyspnea characterized by extension of the neck, bulging of the eyes, and abduction of the elbows. Swallowing causes the attack to stop. The sound can be mimicked by a person who closes the lumen of the caudal nasopharynx by pressing the base of the tongue upward and then tries to inhale through the nose. The incomplete closure of the nasopharynx results in the snoring sounds. This closure is normal during swallowing and is inhibited at the end of the swallowing process, which explains the effect of swallowing in releasing the apparently fixed position of the pharynx and tongue to stop an attack of reverse sneezing. The owner should be instructed to induce the dog's swallowing reflex by massaging the pharyngeal area or briefly closing the nares.