

## Flat-faced dogs and cats? We choose healthy!

Our team of veterinarians and veterinary nurses have decided to take a stand and actively oppose the breeding and promotion of dogs and cats with flat-faces/short muzzles such as the French bulldog, the pug, the Pekinese, and the Persian cat.

### Dogs and cats with short muzzles face lifelong suffering

You probably didn't realise it when purchasing a dog or cat with a flat-face. Perhaps your pet looked very cute and adorable, and you never knew that their looks cause many health problems, that only worsen over time.

We often see cats and dogs that:

- struggle to breathe and overheat easily due to compressed airways (BOAS),
- have recurring skin disease due to excessive skin folds
- suffer from eye diseases (BOS)
- have neck and back hernia's, problems of an ingrown tail or semi-constructed vertebrae
- generally get pregnant through artificial insemination
- generally give birth by means of a cesarian section

Read more about the subject [here](#).

### We abide by the rules

Article 3.4 of [the Animal Keepers Decree](#) (Netherlands) states the breeding rules for dogs and cats. It is, for instance, prohibited to breed animals with harmful external features, or when an animal cannot give birth in a natural way. We abide by these rules.

### What does that mean for you?

Don't worry. When you take your short muzzled dog or cat to the clinic, he or she will receive all the care, love and attention he or she needs. However:

- We do not treat infertility in brachycephalic breeds and we do not offer pre-mate tests for brachycephalic bitches.
- Our team will advise against the purchasing of animals with a flat-face/short muzzle.
- We will not show dogs or cats with flat-faces on social media or in ads.

Health is our priority! The suffering of pets with extreme features needs to stop. Luckily, we are not alone. Veterinarians and animal welfare organisations around the world have joined the battle against these unhealthy muzzles.