

Trouble Urinating

Overview

Trouble urinating is defined as difficult or painful urination. It is characterized by straining to urinate, frequent attempts at urination, and evidence of discomfort when urinating. Discomfort may be demonstrated by crying out during urination, excessive licking at the urogenital region or turning and looking at the area.

Trouble urinating can be caused by many different things including urinary tract infection, bladder stones, inflammation of the urethra, tumors of the urinary tract and neurologic problems affecting the urinary tract.

Diagnosis and Treatment Notes:

- Diagnosing the underlying cause of urinary problems is typically done through history, physical examination findings, and urinalysis. Further testing may also be recommended including bloodwork, abdominal x-rays, special contrast x-rays, and abdominal ultrasound.
- Treatment depends on the underlying disorder, severity of the disease, your individual pet, and your veterinarian. Treatment may include antibiotics, anti-inflammatory drugs, special diet or surgery. Discuss treatment details when your pet is evaluated and the underlying condition causing the trouble urinating is diagnosed.

What to Watch for*:

- Straining to urinate
- Frequent attempts at urination
- Blood in the urine
- Excessive licking at the urogenital area
- Passage of only small amounts of urine
- Vocalization when attempting to urinate
- Inappropriately urinating (in the house)
- Unproductive urination (no urine passed)

** Please notify us if you notice any of the above signs or if you have any questions!*