

Dog Urinary Tract Infection Home Remedies

... Finding Alternative Solutions ...



By: R.D. Hawkins

Dog bladder infection (bacterial cystitis) in female dogs is actually quite common, with the incidence of recurrence also being a major concern.

Additionally, about 3% of apparently healthy female dogs have elevated levels of bacteria in their urine, suggesting the presence of an unrecognized bladder or urinary tract infection.

For dogs with a history of recurrent bladder infections the risk is always present that the bacteria will spread upwards into the kidneys.

Once this occurs there is a substantial risk of kidney damage, scarring, and in very extreme cases , kidney failure, which is often fatal.

Why consider a dog bladder infection home remedy?

Generally speaking, bacteria cystitis is not serious unless the infection is allowed to spread to the kidneys and thus it is treatable at home through natural means.

Nevertheless, it is important that a firm diagnosis (through a urinalysis and/or culture) be made to rule out other potentially more serious conditions that could be lurking under the radar.

Most veterinarians will be keen to treat your dog's bladder infection with antibiotics so you may need to ask a few questions and make it known that you would like to utilize a more natural approach.

Assure him/her that you will keep a close eye on the situation and if things don't improve quickly you will be more than happy to implement their antibiotic treatment plan.

One of the concerns that critics of antibiotic therapy have is that antibiotics actually promote recurrent bladder infection by eliminating the good bacteria responsible for keeping bad bacteria from entering through the urethra. When this protective shield is stripped away it opens the door for easy access.

Additionally, there is some concern that the misuse of antibiotics can provide the ground work for the development of antibiotic resistant strains of bacteria in the future.

Dog bladder infection home remedies ...

The main focus of dog bladder infection home remedies is to take steps to bolster your dog's own internal defenses.



Let's explore a number of these:

*** Increase urine flow:**

Increasing your pet's water consumption and making sure they have enough bathroom breaks sometimes is often enough to flush the invading bacteria out of the body and give your dogs natural defense enough of an advantage to overcome the infection.

Caution: Keep a close eye on your dog to make sure that the bladder is capable of being emptied. Sometimes the bladder is stretched or damaged making it difficult for your pet to void effectively.

Bladders that retain urine are a fertile breeding ground for bacteria, making bacterial cystitis much more difficult to cure, and dramatically increasing the risk for repeated infection.

*** Give me the juice:**

Juices, particularly cranberry juice, acidify the urine and contain an antibacterial agent known as hippuric acid.

Recent studies have shown that certain components of cranberry juice reduce the ability of the E.coli bacteria to attach itself to the lining of the bladder and urethra.

You may have to be a bit creative here. There is a good chance that your Golden retriever Sadie isn't going to be excited about the prospect of a bowl of delicious cranberry juice.

*** Apple cider vinegar:**

Apple cider vinegar has worked well for lots of pet owners and is worth considering. Simply add about half a teaspoon to your dog's food once per day for three days straight.

*** Homeopathic home remedy containing *Uva Ursi*:**

The most effective herbal ingredient used in cases involving bacterial bladder infection is *uva ursi*.

This herb has been widely used throughout the centuries and seems to be particularly effective against E.coli and also has excellent diuretic properties to promote urine flow.

In summary:

The above home remedies for dog bladder infections (especially home remedies containing *uva ursi*) can be a very effective way to eliminate run of the mill bladder infections.

Whatever the case, your dog's condition should be closely monitored and if it appears to be worsening, veterinary care should be sought immediately.



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