

Urinary Symptoms

This is a common problem in cats and dogs. A very important point here is that male animals, especially cats, can get an obstructed urethra within hours from the sandy silt accompanying a bladder infection, so any male cat or dog seen repeatedly straining to urinate **MUST** be taken immediately for veterinary attention as this can cause death quite quickly.



Female animals have a wider urethra so can often be safely treated at home. Another important point is that cats and dogs need an acidic urine, ideally about pH 5.5 to 6, with which to dissolve bladder stone silt and make bacterial infection a near impossibility. Therefore, giving plenty of water to drink and ascorbic acid (it must be the acidic form of vitamin C – sodium or calcium ascorbate are respectively alkaline or neutral so cannot be used) can reduce cystitis markedly in hours.

As with humans [Aconite](#) is the first remedy to think of for sudden onset of symptoms especially after a fright or becoming chilled along with [Ferrum phos](#) for the first stage of the inflammatory process. [Cantharis](#) is usually very effective, it is understood to have a tonic effect on the bladder or consider [Apis](#) if the animal is refusing to drink, [Lycopodium](#) can help if 'gravel' is present in the urine, [Staphysagria](#) is a good remedy for breeding animals or if the symptoms come on after abdominal surgery or an event that could be associated with suppressed anger.

The correct remedies plus herbs (barberry, couch, parsley, crataeva, dandelion leaf, cranberry, echinacea) can have a greater long term success rate than antibiotics, according to research literature, for chronic or recurrent cystitis, even of bacterial origin.

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Repetition of doses: As a general rule you should reduce the doses of a remedy as it starts to act and not continue once the situation has resolved.

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