

URINARY TRACT INFECTIONS (UTIs) IN DOGS

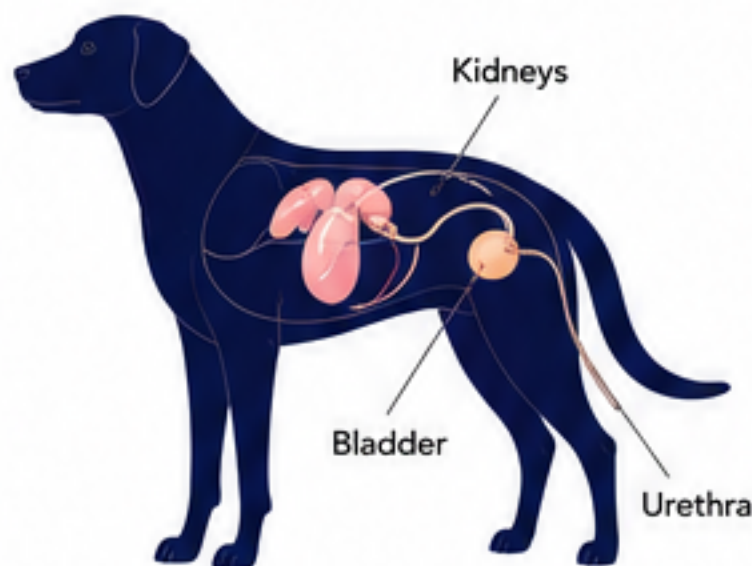
Early detection. Prompt treatment.
Better outcomes.

Urinary tract infections occur when bacteria enter the urinary system, causing inflammation and irritation. UTIs can be uncomfortable and may lead to more serious kidney infections if left untreated.



? WHAT IS A UTI?

A UTI is an infection that affects any part of the urinary tract – the bladder, urethra, or kidneys. Most infections in dogs occur in the lower urinary tract (bladder and urethra).



! SIGNS TO WATCH FOR

- Frequent urination or needing to go outside more often
- Straining or difficulty urinating
- Passing small amounts of urine
- Blood in the urine (pink, red or brown discolouration)
- Urinating in the house
- Licking the genital area more than usual
- Cloudy or strong-smelling urine
- Accidents in well-trained dogs
- Signs of pain or discomfort when urinating
- Lethargy or loss of appetite

Q POSSIBLE CAUSES

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|---|--|----------------------------|
| Bacterial infection (most common cause) | Inadequate water intake | Bladder stones or crystals |
| Poor hygiene | Weakened immune system | Underlying kidney disease |
| Diabetes or other medical conditions | Hormonal changes (especially in female dogs) | Certain medications |

Some UTIs can be recurrent or linked to an underlying health condition.

1 WHEN TO SEE YOUR VETERINARIAN

Seek veterinary care if your dog shows any signs of a UTI. Early treatment can prevent the infection from spreading to the kidneys and causing more serious complications.

Go to your veterinarian urgently if your dog:

- Is unable to urinate
- Produces only drops of urine
- Shows signs of pain or distress
- Has blood in the urine
- Is lethargic or vomiting

2 HOW UTIs ARE DIAGNOSED

Your veterinarian may recommend:

- Physical examination
- Urinalysis (urine sample)
- Urine culture and sensitivity (to identify bacteria and best antibiotic)
- Blood tests if underlying disease is suspected
- Imaging (X-rays or ultrasound) if needed



A clean-catch urine sample provides the most accurate results.

3 TREATMENT

Treatment depends on the severity and cause of the infection.

- Antibiotics to eliminate the infection
- Anti-inflammatory or pain relief medication if needed
- Increased water intake encouraged
- Dietary changes may be recommended for recurrent cases
- Addressing any underlying health issues



Complete the full course of medication even if your dog appears better, to ensure the infection is fully cleared.

4 PREVENTION TIPS

- Always provide fresh, clean water
- Encourage regular toileting breaks
- Maintain good hygiene, especially for long-haired dogs
- Feed a balanced diet to support overall health
- Treat underlying medical conditions
- Regular veterinary check-ups



💡 DID YOU KNOW?

Female dogs, senior dogs and dogs with certain medical conditions are more prone to UTIs.

Recurrent UTIs may indicate an underlying issue that needs investigation.

