

Excessive Urination in Dogs

The causes and treatments of a dog's excessive urinating.

CAUSES OF EXCESSIVE URINATION (polyuria)

Endocrine disorders: Hyperadrenocorticism (Cushing's disease), hyperthyroidism, diabetes mellitus, diabetes insipidus, pyometra, or secondary hyperparathyroidism.

Non-infectious/Acquired diseases: Kidney disease or liver disease.

Infectious diseases: Leptospirosis, cystitis (inflammation/infection of the bladder, usually causing frequent urination), or pyelonephritis (kidney infection, usually bacterial).

Toxicity: Ethylene glycol (antifreeze), chocolate, cholecalciferol (rodenticide), organophosphates (frequent urination), calcipotriene (human psoriasis medication), vitamin D, aminoglycoside antibiotics, or amphotericin B (antibiotic).

Congenital/Inherited disorders: Primary parathyroid hyperplasia (in German Shepherd Dogs), portosystemic shunt, renal dysplasia/hypoplasia (abnormal kidney development; in Miniature Schnauzers, Alaskan Malamutes, Cocker Spaniels, Doberman Pinschers, Lhasa Apsos, and many other breeds), chronic hepatitis (Doberman Pinschers), or hepatic amyloidosis (Shar-Pei).

Drug reactions: Glucocorticoids or phenobarbital.

Tumors: In pituitary, liver, adrenal glands, anal sacs (when accompanied by paraneoplastic syndrome), or malignant lymphoma.

Miscellaneous disorders: Paraneoplastic syndrome (if accompanied by hypercalcemia) or polycythemia (abnormal increase in red blood cells, either primary or secondary to another disease).

What to do: Increased urination may or may not be an emergency, depending on the cause, duration, and presence of other symptoms. Contact your veterinarian or emergency clinic immediately for specific advice about your dog's situation.

Disclaimer: DogChannel.com's Dog Medical Conditions are intended for educational purposes only. They are not meant to replace the expertise and experience of a professional veterinarian. Do not use the information presented here to make decisions about your dog's ailment. If you notice changes in your dog's health or behavior, please take your pet to the nearest veterinarian or an emergency pet clinic as soon as possible.

Have a health question about your dog? Ask our vet expert or ask other dog owners on our forums.