

Frequent Urination

A variety of conditions can cause frequent urination in dogs. Diagnostic lab tests reveal the truth.

Jon Geller, DVM

Luckily, frequent urination is usually easy to diagnose.

Collect a fresh urine sample using a soup ladle (hold it under her as she urinates), and store it in a clean container in the refrigerator. (Be sure to label the container so it is not mistaken for something else by a household member!) See your vet as soon as possible, and have them analyze the urine. The sample should not sit more than a few hours or the results of tests may not be accurate. Your veterinarian may want to do X-rays to rule out bladder stones or some more sophisticated testing for a hormonal disease like Addison's Disease, diabetes mellitus or diabetes insipidus.

Let your veterinarian do a thorough physical exam and run a few tests, and you will probably have your answer. Like a good detective, your veterinarian will eliminate suspects one at a time, and you will be left with the diagnosis. Once diagnosed, most causes of frequent urination are straightforward to treat.

Best,
Jon Geller, DVM

- Get More Advice From Dr. Geller -