Your veterinarian will recommend a Hill’s Prescription Diet brand pet food that will maintain the correct urinary pH balance to help control the formation of urinary bladder stones. Your pet may need long-term management, so you may be advised to feed the new food permanently. Changing to Hill’s is easy because the products taste great and are appealing to pets. You may find the new food costs less to feed per day than your pet’s previous food.

**Hill’s® Prescription Diet® pet foods**

Hill’s Prescription Diet pet foods are specially formulated to help manage pets with health problems. Backed by extensive clinical studies, Hill’s offers the most reliable and trusted range of therapeutic pet foods.

Your veterinarian will recommend a Hill’s Prescription Diet pet food to meet your dog’s specific needs. These foods contain different combinations of nutrients and minerals that help manage imbalances that may contribute to the formation of urinary bladder stones. In some cases, the food may also help dissolve stones that have already developed. From time to time, it may be necessary to change from one food to another in the Hill’s Prescription Diet dog food urinary category.

**c/d® Canine Urinary Tract Health**

Helps control the causes of struvite stones/crystals in dogs

**s/d® Canine Urinary – Dissolution**

Formulated to help dissolve struvite stones in dogs*

**w/d® Canine Low Fat – Diabetic – Gastrointestinal**

Helps manage recurrence of struvite stones/crystals in overweight dogs

Also available in chicken variety

**u/d® Canine Non-Struvite Urinary Tract Health**

Helps manage calcium oxalate, or less common crystals or stones in dogs

*Not recommended for long-term feeding (over 6 months)

**Your checklist**

- If your dog’s condition doesn’t improve, contact your veterinarian
- Only feed the food recommended by your veterinarian
- Ask your veterinarian for advice on mixing dry and canned foods
- Don’t feed people food — this can decrease the effectiveness of the recommended food
- Always provide plenty of clean, fresh water
- Complete all medications dispensed and have regular urine checks

**Feeding Instructions**

- Food recommended:
- Daily amount:
- No. of meals per day:
- How long:
- Next appointment:

---

**For more information**

For more information about Hill’s® pet foods, call Hill’s Consumer Affairs at 1-800-445-5777 or visit www.Hill’sPet.com

*®/™ Trademarks owned by Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Inc. ©2010 Hill’s Pet Nutrition, Inc.

**Hill’s guarantees Prescription Diet® pet foods for quality, consistency, and taste. If you are not completely satisfied with any purchase of Prescription Diet® pet food for these reasons, simply return the unused portion to your veterinarian for a full refund or replacement.**
What are urinary bladder stones?

Urinary bladder stones (also known as uroliths) are collections of mineral crystals that combine together to form a stone in the urinary bladder. Less often, stones may form in the kidneys. The pH of your dog’s urine affects the development of the crystals that lead to urinary bladder stones. The most common type of stones/crystals is struvite, and these tend to form in alkaline urine. Other types develop in more acidic urine.

What causes urinary bladder stones?

There is no single cause of bladder stones. Factors that increase your pet’s likelihood of developing a problem include:

- **Infection**: Bacterial infection of the bladder, causing alkaline urine, is the main cause of struvite crystal formation.
- **Food**: High levels of certain minerals in food can increase the chance of crystal formation in urine. Magnesium and phosphate are mineral components of the most common crystal type struvite. Don’t feed a dog food with excessive amounts of these minerals. The food your dog eats also influences urine acidity (pH). This may encourage certain stones to form, so it’s important to feed the appropriate food.
- **Low water intake**: Not taking in enough water leads to more concentrated urine, which may increase the likelihood of stones forming.
- **Breed**: Certain breeds, such as miniature schnauzers, Dalmatians, Yorkshire terriers and bulldogs, are more prone to develop urinary bladder stones.

Does my dog have a urinary problem or bladder stones?

If your dog has urinary problems, he or she may be very uncomfortable. It’s important to contact your veterinarian immediately for a complete examination if you notice any of the following warning signs below.

Common signs include:

- Straining when urinating
- Blood in urine
- Licking around the genital area
- Incontinence
- Decreased urine flow
- Frequent attempts to urinate

The importance of nutrition

The food your pet eats plays an important role in his or her overall health and well-being. Balanced nutrition is an essential part of an active, healthy lifestyle.

When your dog has urinary bladder stones, it is even more important to feed the right food. This brochure explains how nutrition can help.

Topics covered:

- What are urinary bladder stones?
- Causes of urinary bladder stones
- Signs of a urinary problem or bladder stones
- Nutrition that improves the condition

IMPORTANT

If your dog is not urinating freely, a urinary blockage may be the cause. Consult your veterinarian immediately as this condition could be life threatening.