

Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease & Urinary Obstruction

FLUTD describes conditions affecting the bladder and urethra of cats. This guide explains symptoms, causes, diagnosis, and treatment options for this common feline health issue.

Recognizing FLUTD Symptoms



Urination Changes

Difficulty urinating, frequent urination, or accidents outside the litter box. Cats may also make frequent trips to the litter box with little to no urine output.



Physical Signs

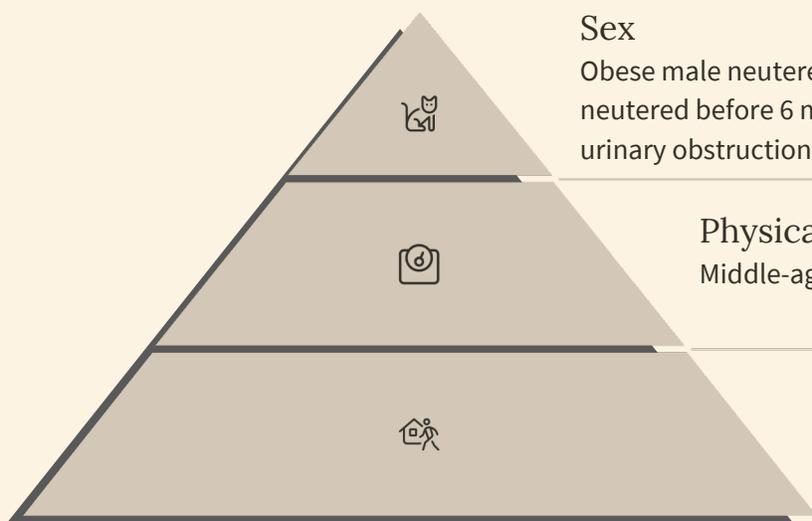
Blood in urine, licking genitals, crying when urinating.



Emergency Signs

Not producing any urine is a **life-threatening emergency requiring immediate care.**

Risk Factors



Sex

Obese male neutered cats, especially those neutered before 6 months, have the highest risk of urinary obstruction.

Physical Condition

Middle-aged, overweight cats with little exercise

Environment

Indoor cats with minimal exercise, restricted outdoor access, **low quality food diet**



Common Causes

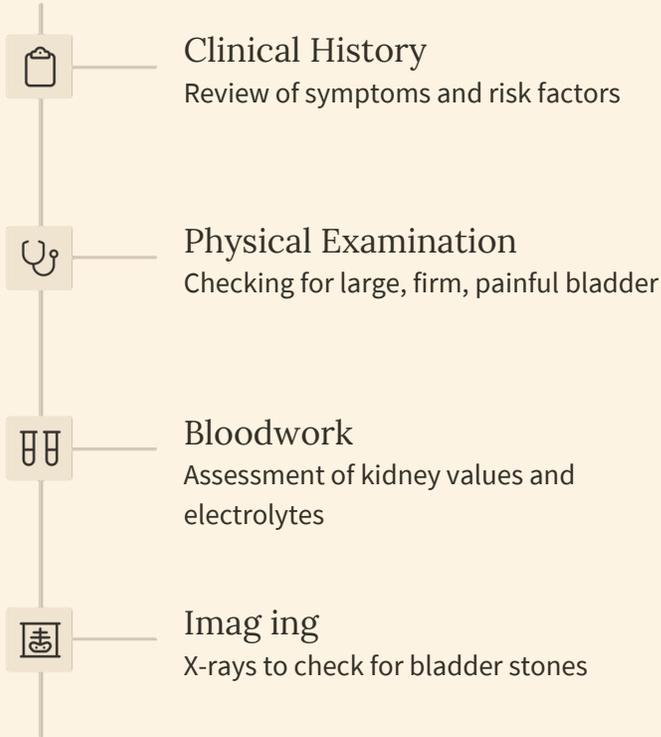
Feline Idiopathic Cystitis (FIC)

is a diagnosis made after other causes are ruled out. It's often linked to stress and causes inflammation in the bladder. *This is the less common form.*

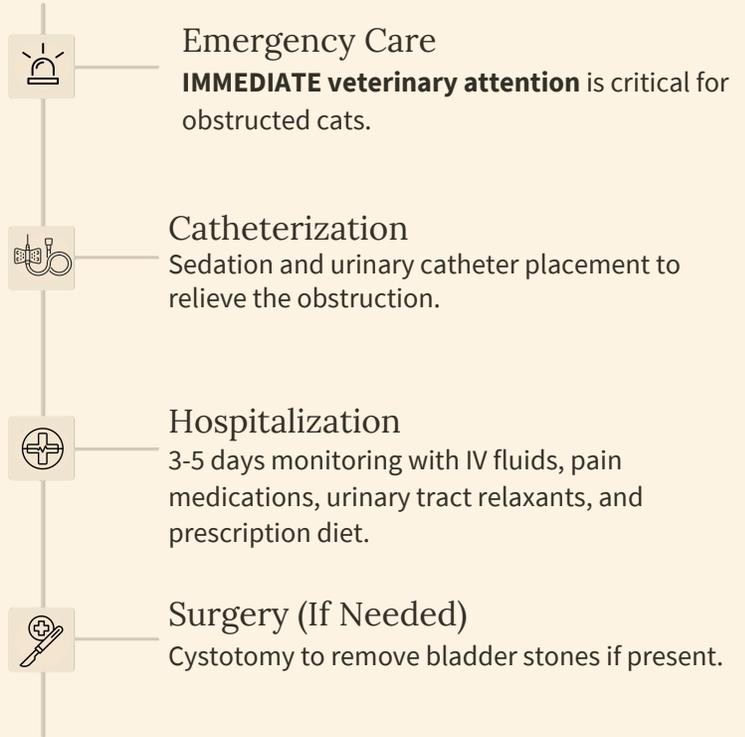
Urolithiasis (Urinary Stones)

the presence of rock-hard mineral stones in the urinary tract. The most common types are struvite and calcium oxalate stones. These often require surgical removal, especially in male cats, due to the risk of blockage.

Diagnosis Process:



Treatment:



Home Management

Prescription Diet
Lifelong urinary diet like Purina Veterinary Diet UR ST/OX.
No regular food or excessive treats.

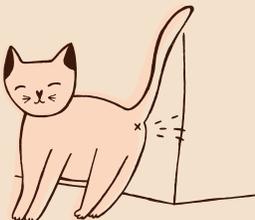
Hydration
Clean, fresh water always available.
Consider recirculating water fountains.
(Filtered or softened water is recommended)

Litter Box Care
Number of cats + 1 boxes. Keep in quiet areas and clean regularly.

Stress Reduction
Minimize routine changes. Consider Feliway pheromone diffusers or collars.

When to Seek Emergency Care

No Urination
Cat unable to pass urine despite straining is an **absolute emergency**.



Increasing Distress
Cat becoming increasingly vocal, restless, urinating out of litter box, or lethargic.



Contact Information
671-646-CARE (2273)
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