

ASK OUR VETERINARIANS

Increased drinking and urination

So, you think your dog or cat is drinking and urinating more than usual. This can be normal if the pet is overheated or stressed or, it can even be a behavioral problem. However, in most pets, this may be indicative of illness. Possible common causes for increased drinking include: diabetes, kidney disease, thyroid disease in cats, Cushing's disease, cancer, and urinary tract infections.

If your pet appears to be drinking and urinating more than usual, it can be due to one of two driving forces, 1) the pet is urinating frequently and therefore must drink more to keep from becoming dehydrated- this occurs in the case of kidney disease and diabetes OR 2) the pet is drinking more and therefore needs to urinate more – this occurs more frequently with behavioral problems. Young labs are especially predisposed to developing behavioral problems that cause them to become “obsessed” with water.

If you believe that your pet is drinking and/or urinating more frequently, you should bring your pet to your veterinarian for an examination. Be prepared for the doctor to recommend blood and urine samples to check for the above listed diseases!

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