

PROSTATE GLAND DISEASE

The prostate is a gland which surrounds the urethra (urine canal) near the bladder in male dogs and cats. The gland produces a fluid needed for reproduction. **As in man, this gland may cause problems, especially in the OLDER, non-neutered pet.**

These major problems include:

- 1. Infection (prostatitis) which can arise from bladder or blood infections.**
- 2. Enlargement (benign hyperplasia) due to hormonal imbalances.**
- 3. Cancer.**
- 4. Cysts. (fluid-filled sacs formed within the gland itself)**

Signs of prostate disease may include:

- 1. Pain in the rear quarters.**
- 2. A “hunched-up” appearance to the back.**
- 3. Straining to defecate--the pet may appear constipated.**
- 4. Straining to urinate, bloody urine, and increased frequency of urination.**
- 5. Discharges from the penis (blood or pus)**

The treatment of prostate disease depends upon the individual cause.

Methods of treatment include:

- 1. Urine cultures--to determine proper therapy.**
- 2. Hormone therapy.**
- 3. Antibiotics.**
- 4. Castration.**
- 5. Prostate gland surgical removal.**

Remember . . . NEUTERING your pet will help prevent prostate disease!

Notify the clinic if any of the following occur:

- 1. Your pet strains excessively to urinate or have a bowel movement.**
- 2. Your pet has bloody urine or exhibits pain when urinating.**
- 3. There is a discharge from the penis.**
- 4. There is a change from your pet’s general health.**
- 5. There is no response to therapy within 3 days.**