## Kidney disease in pets. Six things you need to know.

It is estimated that over 1 in 3 cats<sup>1</sup> and 1 in 10 dogs<sup>2</sup> will develop kidney disease in their lifetimes. Recent studies suggest kidney disease is even more common and until now has been under-recognized.<sup>3,4</sup>

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Certain risk factors might make pets more likely to develop kidney disease, such as Lyme disease in dogs, kidney stones, infections, toxins, injuries, genetic abnormalities, cancer and others.<sup>1,2</sup>

Important warning signs of kidney disease may be very subtle and include drinking more, peeing more, weight and activity changes, vomiting, bad breath or other hard-to-recognize signals.<sup>1,2</sup> Early diagnosis, before signs become obvious, can be key in identifying the base cause of kidney disease. This provides more time to treat the underlying cause or to slow progression of the disease and also may help your pet to feel well for as long as possible.

Your veterinarian can give you tips for keeping your pet's kidneys healthy and your pet happy as long as possible, including strategies for avoiding dehydration or getting your pet to drink more water.<sup>1,2</sup>





## Pet he<u>alth</u>

Ask your veterinarian about your pet's kidney health today and visit **pethealthnetwork.com** for more kidney facts. The new kidney screening test, the IDEXX SDMA<sup>™</sup> Test, may help your veterinarian identify chronic kidney disease in cats and dogs months or even years earlier than traditional methods.<sup>4</sup>

## PetHealthNetwork

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DPAS pethealthnetwork.com

1. Lulich JP, Osborne CA, O'Brien TD, Polzin DJ. Feline renal failure: questions, answers, questions. Compend Contin Educ Pract Vet. 1992;14(2):127–153.

2. Brown SA. Renal dysfunction in small animals. The Merck Veterinary Manual website. www.merckmanuals.com/vet/urinary\_system/noninfectious\_diseases\_of\_the\_urinary\_system\_in\_small\_animals/renal\_dysfunction\_in\_small\_animals.html. Updated October 2013. Accessed June 23, 2015. 3. Marino CL, Lascelles BD, Vaden SL, Gruen ME, Marks SL. The prevalence and classification of chronic kidney disease in cats randomly selected from four age groups and in cats recruited for degenerative joint disease studies. *J Feline Med Surg.* 2014;16(6):465-472. 4. Data on file at IDEXX Laboratories, Inc. Westbrook, Maine USA.

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