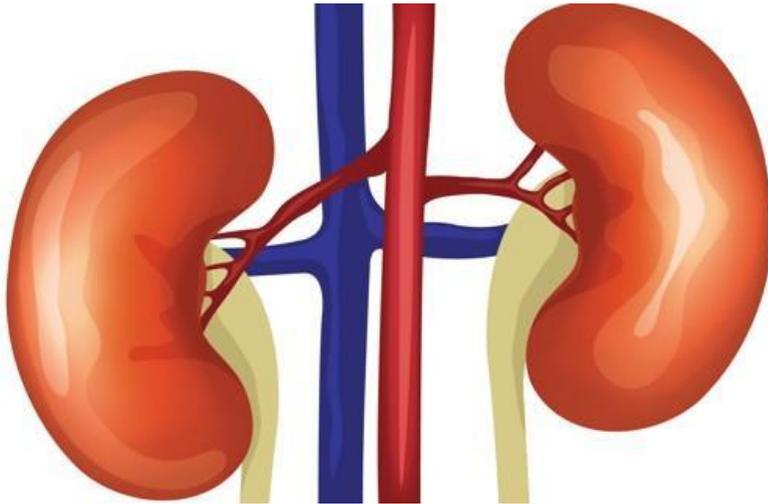


CHRONIC KIDNEY DISEASE



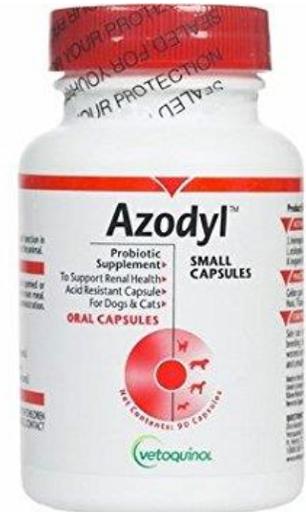
KIDNEY DISEASE

What is kidney disease?

Kidney disease is a broad term that basically means that the kidneys are not functioning properly. There are many reasons this can happen that range from leptospirosis, cancer, toxin ingestion, or chronic urinary tract infections to name a few.

One of the biggest concerns with kidney disease is uremia or the build-up of something called BUN. This by-product that is normally expelled from the body by a properly functioning kidney can cause ulcers in the stomach, vomiting, inappetence and lethargy. The kidney is also responsible for stimulating red blood cell production and controlling blood pressure. Secondary problems that can develop with long term disease include anemia (low blood levels) and high blood pressure.

JOINT • DISEASE



QUESTIONS?

Please contact your veterinarian via email or phone.

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Please visit <http://www.iris-kidney.com/guidelines/staging.html> to learn more about this disease.

Also check out this helpful link from our website <https://www.rowananimalclinic.com/drugs--diseases--surgical-procedures.html>

What comes next?

Once the diagnosis has been made, prescription foods are a key part of treatment. Science Diet k/d is recommended to provide a diet low in protein and low in phosphorous. Protein and phosphorous at high levels can be very hard on kidneys. High levels of phosphorous can lead to other health complications. Diagnosis of kidney disease is supported by many different symptoms that have been previously discussed. To diagnose the exact cause, it may take multiple tests. In some cases, the true cause is not identified, and the focus of treatment is on supportive care for the kidney.

An important part of diagnosing disease is the use of blood and urine tests to stage the disease. Early stages can be managed for long periods providing a good quality of life for your pet. Later stages may take more intense management to achieve good quality of life.

What comes later?

Testing will be performed:

1. Annually along with an Annual Preventive Examination
2. As advised by the veterinarian
3. Any time you notice a return of symptoms or your pet just doesn't feel well

What should you plan for?

Management of this disease is progressive. The best way to keep your pet properly managed is regular screening to assess the disease stage. Plan to schedule appointments every 3-6 months so your pet can be properly monitored with blood testing and

SCHEDULE AN APPOINTMENT

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blood pressure testing. Also plan for long-term use of prescription foods, and possibly addition of supplements and/or prescription medications.

What should you watch out for?

It is of utmost importance to avoid nephrotoxic agents. Things that can be damaging to the kidney include onions, garlic, grapes, many common household human medications, and many more. Signs your pet's disease may be getting worse include, weight loss, decreased appetite, vomiting, "picky eater".

NOTE

DETERMINING THE ETIOLOGY (cause) OF DISEASE CAN BE EXPENSIVE AND FRUSTRATING. IF YOU ARE INTERESTED IN DIVING DEEPER INTO KIDNEY DISEASE PLEASE CONTACT YOUR VETERINARIAN AND ASK ABOUT REFERRAL OPTIONS.