** MEDICAL DISSOLUTION OF STRUVITE UROLITHS IN DOGS **

** Therapy:** Struvitolytic Diet
- Appropriate antimicrobics for infection-induced uroliths

** Monitor:** Urinalysis and medical imaging every 4 to 6 weeks.

- **USG < 1.020**
  - Urine pH < 6.5
  - 20% Reduction in Stone Size
  - (These parameters are ideal for successful struvite dissolution.)

- **USG > 1.020**
  - Urine pH > 6.5
  - Bacteriuria
    - Culture urine to verify infection and antimicrobial administration
    - If positive, administer appropriate antimicrobial by an accepted route

- **Identical or Increased Urolith Size, or Stalled Urolith Dissolution**
  - Inadequate Control of UTI
    - Administer antimicrobics throughout the entire period of dissolution

- **Incomplete Dietary Compliance**
  - Incorrect or Incomplete Prediction of Mineral Composition
    - Consider minimally invasive or surgical methods to remove uroliths

- To verify, measure using pH meter
  - Minimize confounding post-prandial alkalinuria by sampling urine just prior to meals or >8 hrs after meals

- Consider a diet with proven success (e.g. Prescription Diet® s/d® Canine) to lower USG and pH, and dissolve struvite.
  - If currently consuming Prescription Diet® s/d® Canine, verify dietary compliance by measuring blood urea nitrogen concentration; if > 9 mg/dl (3.2 mmol/L), encourage better compliance with therapeutic food and emphasize avoiding other foods and treats

- Continue therapy and repeat monitoring in 4 to 6 weeks.
  - Once radiographic dissolution is achieved, continue therapy for an additional 2 to 4 weeks, then follow Canine Struvite prevention guidelines

** Review manufacturer’s therapeutic food literature to determine indications/contraindications. For pets with multiple health concerns, consult a veterinary nutritionist to select an optimal food.**