CANINE SOLIDIFIED BLOOD

Solidified blood stones are an uncommon cause of urolithiasis. The cause often remains unknown. A solidified blood nephrolith has been reported in an anemic cat with porphyria. In some instances, solidified blood serves as a nidus for deposition of other minerals surrounding it.

MINIMIZING RECURRENCE

** DIAGNOSTIC CONSIDERATIONS **
Identify causes for local (e.g. trauma, infection, cancer, stones) and generalized (e.g. coagulopathies) bleeding.

** MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS **
Eliminate underlying cause of bleeding.

** NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS **
Feed canned foods or add water to food to lower urine specific gravity below 1.020 to minimize clot formation and retention in the urinary tract.

** MONITORING CONSIDERATIONS **
Urinalysis every 3 months to monitor for persistent urinary hemorrhage and need for further investigation of the cause. Medical imaging every 6 to 12 months to detect recurrence. Recurrence is an indication for further evaluation and adjustments.

** 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.**