**FELINE CALCIUM PHOSPHATE CARBONATE UROLITHS**

Calcium phosphate carbonate uroliths likely form as a consequence of urinary tract infection with bacteria that produce the enzyme urease and contribute to urine alkalinization. Uroliths recur when urinary tract infection is not consistently prevented. We hypothesize that increased calcium excretion and urinary tract infection are important risk factors for calcium phosphate carbonate.

**MINIMIZING RECURRENCE**

**DIAGNOSTIC CONSIDERATIONS**
- Culture urine.
- Serum Calcium

**MEDICAL CONSIDERATIONS**
- Penicillins (e.g. amoxicillin) are usually effective against common urease producing bacteria (Staphylococcus sp.); however, culture and susceptibility testing provides the most accurate method for selecting effective antibacterials. Administer culture-susceptible antibiotics for 3-7 days for sporadic infections.

**NUTRITIONAL CONSIDERATIONS**
- Low phosphorus/magnesium/sodium foods that promote acidic urine (e.g. c/d multicare, others)

**MONITORING CONSIDERATIONS**
- Culture urine every 1 to 3 months and with clinical signs of urinary tract disease to manage recurrent infections.
  - Medical imaging every 3 to 6 months to detect recurrent stones when small to potentially permit their removal without surgery.

**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.**

*Support from Hills Pet Nutrition, veterinarians, and pet owners make our work possible.*