FELINE XANTHINE

Hereditary xanthinuria is a rare autosomal recessive disorder of purine metabolism caused by mutations in xanthine dehydrogenase (Type I) or molybdenum cofactor sulfarsase (Type II) genes, and causes xanthine uroliths. Xanthine uroliths can also develop as an adverse effect of xanthine dehydrogenase inhibitors (allopurinol administration); however, this medication is rarely prescribed to cats. Urolith recurrence is rapid (<3 months). Many cats with hereditary xanthinuria develop nephroliths and chronic kidney disease earlier (3-6 years old) than the general population.

MINIMIZING RECURRENCE

** 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.