



FurryTales™

MOBILE VETERINARY CARE

August Newsletter 2008

Polyuria

Dr Fiona Cox BVSC Hon

The condition-of-the-month for August is 'polyuria'.. or the production of too much urine. I am writing about polyuria as it is something that I have seen alot of this month & it illustrates just how useful a urine sample can be.

In winter many of our hairy friends are escaping the chill indoors, but extra time indoors is making little accidents more noticeable. Little wet patches when a pet gets up, wet bedding & a urine odour suggest a urinary problem.

My recent cases involved senior, apparently healthy dogs who were wetting their beds at night. We tested the urine & found that the urine concentration was too weak & the dogs were producing too much urine (excuse my analogy, but a little like 1L of water with a teaspoon of cordial rather than the normal 250ml cup of water & 1 tablespoon of cordial). The urine was overflowing during the night, due purely to large bladder size. This is in contrast to true urinary incontinence, another cause of 'leaking' where volume is normal but the bladder valve is faulty.

Dilute urine is produced when too much water is lost by the kidneys & not enough is reabsorbed. In senior cats the most common cause is kidney disease (diabetes, to a lesser frequency). For dog common causes include primary kidney disease, Cushings disease or diabetes. My recent cases were due to Cushings disease, a problem caused by over-activity of the adrenal glands in the abdomen. Cushings disease is manageable through medication.

In summary urinary problems in senior pets are not necessarily due to primary incontinence, and can reflect over production of urine & secondary bladder overflow. If you suspect a problem, be prepared for a slightly embarrassing trip around the back yard with a container in hand, as we may need a sample to sort the problem out.



Remember what goes in, must come out. Excessive drinking is coupled with excessive urination.

FurryTales Mobile Veterinary Care

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Staff

Our staff member of the month is Lauren Blake our new trainee nurse. Lauren is a proud mum to puppy Lacey the beautiful Chihuahua x & Noodle the cat. We are very happy to have her on board & look forward to you meeting her.

ACT Rescue & Foster Dog of the Month

www.fosterdogs.org

'Angus' is in the market for a new home... but not just any home. Angus is a smart, active little guy who is looking for someone who will further his training & take him for lots of walks. He is toilet trained, sits, drops, sleeps through the night & loves to play. He is good with other dogs & enthusiastic towards cats. If you think you or someone you know could be his new best friend contact Dr Fiona, who is fostering this charming little man



'Angus'

Website

Our website is soon to undergo a facelift thanks to Terry our website designer as we want it to be an informative site for you & a fun one that features photos and stories about your pets. The site will be updated monthly with photos, birthdays & exciting upcoming events. So don't be shy & send your photos & stories to us at vet@furrytales.com.au.

Furrytales Friend Of The Month:

Nicole Hewitt at All Creatures Photography. Nicole has worked for Furrytales capturing the fantastic images many of you have seen on our stationary.

'I am a notorious animal lover & I adore capturing the true spirit of every pet that stands (sits, stays, runs, pants or drools) in front of my lens'. If you'd like to immortalise your four-legged family member or you're looking for the perfect gift for someone you know that is as potty about animals as I am then contact All Creatures Photography to book a session. Nicole 62261440 / 0414626577



'Benson' a Furrytales baby.

On a sad note

Tragically Dr Fiona lost her own little angel Sammy earlier this month. Sammy was originally a rescue dog from ARF. The only small consolation is the beautiful photo that Nicole took early last year that serves as a reminder of his character. He is deeply missed.



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