

## AILMENT MANAGEMENT SERIES

~ MINI COURSE ~

# Urinary Calculi: A Reference for Emergency Situations

#### The Giving Goat, LLC

DISCLAIMER: I am not a vet, nor am I a licensed professional. I am in no way a "goat expert" and my opinions are only that of personal experiences, and my insights shared are not veterinary treatment suggestions (I am NOT a vet). I am simply sharing my own personal opinions and knowledge. Any and all changes to your goats' health regimen, care, etc. should be approved by a veterinary professional or licensed professional.

## Symptom Checker

Frequent laying down/getting up (restlessness)

General lethargy/malaise

Stretching, Arching, Hunching

**Dribbling Urine** 

Screaming while attempting to urinate

## Early Treatment Regimen

Begin dosing Ammonium Chloride (diluted in water or juice) at 1 tsp per 75lbs bodyweight every 12 hours Alternative to AC:

15cc white vinegar, 15cc pure cranberry juice, 2 human vitamin c chewables (crushed)

Aspirin: 325mg per 10lbs; *Children's Ibuprofen Liquid*: 1cc per 10lbs Dose an anti-inflammatory to allow stones to pass more easily. Banamine at 1cc per 100lbs SubQ is preferred. OTC human meds are not recommended in case the goat ultimately receives surgery.

Apply a warm compress to the sheath to reduce inflammation and soften stones.

Manually remove any visible stones from urethra tip if present.

If no improvements after day 1, the pain and danger is too severe to continue home treatment.

Please note the oral acidification options are not helpful for calcium <u>oxalate</u> stones (usually only caused by beet pulp in common diets).

## Surgical Treatments

At-Home Option: "Pizzle Cut" Procedure
Put the goat on its rump and expose the
tip of the urethral process, snip it to
allow easier passage of stones/urine.



Please see article by Tennessee

Meat Goats for tutorial:

<a href="https://www.tennesseemeatgoats.c">https://www.tennesseemeatgoats.c</a>

om/articles2/urinarycalculiin.html

Veterinarian Required: Invasive Surgery See following page for in-depth medical explanations of the types of surgeries (optional to read, but helpful to know!)

## **Know The Surgeries**

\*Common options

#### **Tube Cystotomy**

Common, requires full anesthesia. Allows for a tube to relieve urine pressure from bladder, bypassing the urethra entirely. Temporary procedure until stones are gone and urethra is healed, but often the tube can be left in longer than commonly suggested. Vesicular irrigation should be discussed with surgeon as well.

#### **Perineal Urethrostomy**

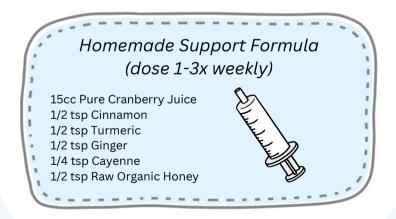
Less common due to high risk of stricture (narrowing due to scar tissue/trauma). Involves an incision made through the perineum to create a urethral opening.

#### **Bladder Marsupialization**

Creates a brand new location from the bladder to excrete urine (long-term). However, urine scald and dermatitis is common due to frequent leaking of urine onto skin.

### Recovery

- Remove causative factors
- Continue oral acidification measures (ammonium chloride and formula below)
- Follow post-surgery directions if applicable.





#### For further questions:

Email: thegivinggoat@gmail.com Instagram: @goatlifegoodlife

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Please always contact both your mentor and a veterinarian at the first sign of UC. University teaching hospitals often have the best surgical success.

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