



## Urine Collection for a Dog and Cat

If you're submitting a sample of urine for your pet for analysis, the following are steps to take:

### For your Dog:



1. Collect the first sample of the morning. This urine is more concentrated since it has been collecting in the bladder overnight; thus, we will have more particles to view in the microscope.
2. This may seem like a no-brainer, but it's easier to catch urine from a dog on a leash. (Yes, there are those who prefer to chase after their dogs instead of going to the gym; but if you're not one of those, then use a leash.)
3. Try to collect a mid-stream sample as this will have less contamination from the outer skin. Also, if your dog steps in the sample, it's no good. You will need to wait and collect another sample for submission. This can be very tricky, so you have to be quick and move away from your dog with the sample before he or she can step in your cup or bowl. It's sometimes much easier to use a Styrofoam bowl for collection and transfer your sample to a smaller container for submission to the clinic.
4. Be sure to use a clean, dry container that is free from any soap residue. Soap residue may interfere with the chemical part of the analysis.
5. The sample needs to be submitted to the clinic within two hours of collection. It also needs to be contained in the refrigerator. Place your name, your dog's name, the date and time collected on the container or a piece of paper for submission.
6. Please submit the sample in a leak-proof container, especially if your sample is small to begin with – every drop counts!

### For your Cat:



1. Cat's are far more difficult for owners to collect urine from. If you are able to purchase non-absorbing litter, then you can place this in a clean, dry litter box.
  - ❖ Time is of the essence. Unlike our canine companions, our feline friends can be very self-conscious about being watched while they do their business. It's very important that you know when the urine was collected, and the fresher the better.
  - ❖ If you're trying for a "free catch" collection via your cat's litter box, and you're simply unable to get one during the day that can be submitted within two hours from the time your cat urinates, we do allow cats to board with us overnight to collect the sample. However, beware that some can be very stubborn and hold it for quite a while in our facility. We also have other methods, such as cystocentesis, that the doctors can perform to obtain a sample. The best method will vary with the patient and circumstance.
  - ❖ Place your name, your cat's name, the date and time collected on the container or a piece of paper for submission.