

COLLECTING A URINE SAMPLE FOR YOUR PET'S URINE PROTEIN CREATININE RATIO

What is a UPCR?

A Urine Protein Creatinine Ratio (UPCR) is a urine test that is used to help evaluate kidney function and monitor kidney disease. It does this by measuring how much protein is lost through the kidneys.

What does this mean for my pet?

If protein was found in your pet's most recent urinalysis, it is recommended to have a UPCR run to determine if it is an area of concern. Losing trace amounts of protein in the urine may not be significant if the kidneys are working well. However, if kidney function is abnormal or the urine is consistently dilute, even a tiny amount of protein in the urine could be an indicator of true kidney disease. Protein may also be found in the urine if your pet has a bladder infection, bladder stones, prostate disease, and more.

How does the sample need to be collected?

We will need 3 separate urine samples over the course of 2 days. Ideally, two morning samples and one evening sample. Each sample needs to be stored in a separate container from the other samples. After collecting the urine sample, put it in the refrigerator as soon as possible. Refrigerating the urine will keep the sample fresh, which is vital since this test takes a few days. Once all 3 samples are collected, you may drop all of the samples off for submission to the lab!

