

# Is my cat drinking and weeing too much?

## Overview

- Is your cat drinking or weeing more than usual?
- You may hear your vet use the words polyuria and polydipsia (PUPD for short).
  - Polyuria = weeing too much
  - Polydipsia = drinking too much
- The two symptoms often come together because the more your cat drinks, the more they wee, and the more they wee, the more they need to drink.
- There are many possible causes for drinking and peeing too much.
- If you think your cat is drinking too much, take them to your vet - **never restrict your cat's water to control the problem.**



## Is your cat drinking and peeing too much?

Most owners rarely see their cat drink, especially if they are fed a wet diet. This is because cats get most of their water from their food. If you suddenly start noticing your cat drinking, it may be a sign that something is wrong. Ask yourself, is your cat...

- Drinking more than usual?
- Thirsty all the time?
- Emptying their water bowl more quickly than usual?
- Drinking from taps, puddles or streams more regularly than usual?
- Drinking so much that they vomit?
- Visiting their litter tray more often or peeing in larger volumes?
- Weeing in the house?

...if so, contact your vet for an appointment. It can be helpful to take a urine sample along, and tell you vet exactly how much your cat is drinking in a 24 hour period. For help with both these tasks watch our videos:

- How to: collect a urine sample from your cat
- How to: measure how much your pet is drinking

## Causes

Some of the most common causes of increased drinking and peeing include:

- A urine infection
- Kidney disease
- Diabetes
- Hyperthyroidism

- High temperature (fever)
- Medications that cause increased thirst e.g. steroids

There are many other possible causes.

## When to contact your vet

Always take your cat to see your vet if you think they are drinking or peeing too much.

Remember; if possible, take a urine sample and a note of how much your cat is drinking in a 24-hour period.

Published: Aug 2019