Percutaneous cystolithotomy (PCCL) A VETERINARY MEDICINE & BIOMEDICAL SCIENCES TEXAS A & M UNIVERSITY





Procedure: This procedure is performed under anesthesia and is a less invasive option than the traditional surgery for bladder stones. A small incision (<2 cm) is first made in the abdomen. A second incision (5 mm) is made into the bladder and a cystoscope is used to locate the stones. These are retrieved using a basket. Any stones lodged in the urethra are pulverized with lithotripsy. The bladder and abdominal incisions are then closed. The stones are submitted for analysis.

Indications: Uroliths (stones) within the bladder and/or urethra.

Patient eligibility (species, size, gender): Any dog or cat is a suitable candidate. This is the preferred option for patients too small for standard lithotripsy or with >4 stones. This procedure is not suitable for patients with a urinary tract infection.

Cost: \$6,000-8,000, depending on duration of procedure. Pre-operative evaluation may be necessary (labwork, urine culture, etc.) and will incur additional costs.

Length of stay: 24 hours post-procedure to monitor urination

Complications: Mild discomfort and bleeding when urinating are expected for up to a week after surgery.

Anticipated outcome: This is an excellent alternative to traditional surgical approaches, and is particularly useful if stones are lodged in the urethra. Stone recurrence is likely without appropriate long-term management.

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