Tips for pets with struvite crystals

Struvite crystals can be normal in small amounts in concentrated urine. If there are urination issues, it is best to treat them.

* Give plenty of water. Entice cats to drink by putting out a pet fountain, turning on the sink faucet, or leaving out large full dishes that they will not hit their whiskers on the sides of. Leave a night light on near water dishes, as cats often do not see water levels well unless the water is moving.
* Wet food is best, or watered down kibble if they will eat it.
* Make sure any [UTI](http://www.examiner.com/topic/uti/articles)/urinary tract infection is treated, as bacteria can raise the pH.
* Struvite crystals form in alkaline urine. Urine gets too alkaline by 1) bacterial infection, 2) too much plant material in the food.
* To acidify urine, use foods that have their main first ingredients (or high up on the list) as wholesome meat, fish, or eggs. Avoid by-products, as these can be feathers or toenails—not very digestible!
* Avoid chemicals and filler ingredients.
* Keep litter boxes clean at all times. Have one more pan than the number of cats within a household.
* **If your male cat has not urinated in 24 hours—take him to the vet immediately to unblock him to avoid death and/or kidney failure.**