

My Pet Is Drinking More Than Normal

Family Matters

One of the most important changes you can notice at home isn't what your pet is eating.

It's **how much they're drinking**.

Many serious illnesses begin with one simple sign:

Your pet starts drinking more water than usual.

At Amity, we believe that increased thirst should never be ignored. Our purpose is to **Empower You Through Education**, helping you recognise when a subtle change could be your pet's way of telling you something is wrong.

How Much Water Is Normal?

Every pet drinks slightly different amounts.

Hot weather.

Exercise.

A change from wet food to dry food.

All of these can increase water intake.

The important question isn't whether your pet drinks "a lot."

It's whether they're drinking **more than they normally do**.

You know your pet better than anyone.

If you're filling the water bowl more often than usual, trust your instincts.

What Can Cause Increased Thirst?

There are many possible causes, including:

- Kidney disease.
- Diabetes.
- Cushing's disease.
- Liver disease.

- Urinary tract infections.
- Uterine infection (pyometra) in unneutered females.
- Certain medications such as steroids.
- High calcium levels.
- Occasionally, behavioural causes.

Some of these conditions are relatively straightforward to treat.

Others require lifelong management.

The earlier we diagnose them, the better the outcome is often likely to be.

What Else Should I Look For?

Ask yourself:

- Is your pet passing more urine?
- Are they having accidents indoors?
- Has their appetite changed?
- Have they lost weight?
- Are they quieter than usual?
- Are they vomiting?
- Is their coat changing?
- Are they panting more than usual?

These observations help us narrow down the possible causes.

How Will My Vet Investigate It?

Increased thirst is a symptom, not a diagnosis.

The first step is understanding **why** it is happening.

Depending on your pet's examination, we may recommend:

- Blood tests.
- Urine tests.
- Blood pressure measurement.
- Ultrasound or X-rays where appropriate.

Urine testing is particularly valuable because it tells us how well the kidneys are functioning, whether glucose is present and whether there is evidence of infection.

Each test provides another piece of the puzzle.

Don't Restrict Their Water

One of the biggest mistakes owners can make is limiting access to water because their pet seems to be drinking too much.

If your pet is drinking excessively because of an underlying illness, restricting water can make them seriously dehydrated.

Always allow free access to fresh drinking water unless your vet has specifically advised otherwise.

Early Diagnosis Makes a Difference

Many of the diseases that cause increased thirst develop gradually.

The earlier we recognise them, the more treatment options we often have and the better we can preserve your pet's quality of life.

At **Amity**, we don't simply investigate blood results.

We investigate changes.

Sometimes the smallest change at home becomes the biggest clue in the consulting room.

That's why **Amity Essential Membership includes unlimited health checks**. If you've noticed your pet drinking more than usual, we'd much rather investigate it early than wait until they become seriously unwell.

Because paying attention to the little things often prevents much bigger problems.

Because they're not just your pet.

They're family.

Family Matters.

If you need more information, book an appointment with an Amity vet. We're here to Empower You Through Education and help you become your pet's greatest advocate.