Feline Lower Urinary Tract Disease (FLUTD) Condensed Version

**Classic Case:** Strain often, vocalize, painful → small amounts urine → drops of blood/bloody urine → inside/outside litter pan → +/- obstruction

**Presentation:**
- Underlying cause of FLUTD must be determined
  - Rx for one cause may be contraindicated for other causes
  - MANY possible underlying causes.
  - Most common cz of FLUTD=cystitis followed by urolithiasis
- Males = Females (2 - 6 yo), NEUTERED
- 2 scenarios
  - Not obstructed- Small, contracted bladder, +/- difficult to palpate, +/- empty, +/- painful
  - Obstructed = Life Threatening Medical Emergency MALES >>> Females

**Test(s) of choice:**
- No test specific for FLUTD - **Diagnosis of exclusion**
- Dx often based on **Hx, PE and UA**, esp. at first presentation

**Rx of choice:** **Many cats better w/in 5 – 10 days regardless of Rx**
- Relieve obstruction if indicated and correct electrolytes
- Management of feeding, water, litter, environment as below:
  - Environmental enrichment
  - ↑ H2O content of diet (canned food)
  - Encourage water drinking (fresh, multiple bowls)
  - “1 litter box per cat +1”
  - Analgesics- NSAIDs: Onsi® (robenacoxib), meloxicam; Opiods: Buprenorphine
  - If above Rx are not enough, may add the following:
    - Feline facial pheromone (Feliway™)
    - Glycosaminoglycan (GAG): (Benefits some cats w/ Idiopathic cystitis)
    - Behaviour-modifying drugs (tricyclic antidepressants, like amitriptyline, clomipramine)

**Prognosis:** Good to excellent with diligent therapy, can be lifelong problems with some cats
- Recurrence common, risk of obstruction increases with multiple episodes

**Prevention:** ALL indoor cats need enriched environments; often sufficient to suppress clinical signs

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**Zuku Review FlashNotes™ Classic Question(s)**

What is the most common cause of feline lower urinary tract disease (FLUTD)?

List five clinical signs of FLUTD.

What are four management recommendations for an indoor cat with unobstructed FLUTD?

What key message should be communicated to the owner of a cat with FLUTD?