

**Range Animal Hospital**

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## **Gall Bladder Stones**

- This is an uncommon problem in dogs, but the incidence is increasing, likely owing to increased detection with the availability of ultrasound.
- Unexplained liver enzyme elevations deserve ultrasound evaluation.
- Non-clinical stones can probably be managed with observation alone.
- Chronic GI signs make their removal appropriate, but a good work-up prior to that decision is appropriate.
- Stones with chronic liver enzyme elevations should be removed.
- We prefer to do these procedures on Monday, Tuesday and Thursday.
- We will coordinate postoperative aftercare with your hospital. Typical care includes:
  - A 4-5 day postoperative incision check.
  - A 10-12 day suture removal.
- Please send any preoperative laboratory tests, radiographs, and sonograms.
- Cases typically have a 1 or 2 night hospitalization.
- Uncomplicated cases are typically \$1200 to \$1400 [January 2011]. Rarely, some cases are more complicated with protracted post-operative recoveries. Ask for an estimate.