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## Incontinence

-Dr. Jacky May

Older spayed female dogs can develop incontinence (males can too but that is much less common). An incontinent dog leaks urine without being aware of it. The leakage is generally worse when they are resting or sleeping. If you are finding urine in areas where the dog has been laying down or sleeping then very likely they have not chosen to urinate in those places. Instead their bladder sphincter is no longer as tight as it should be and they cannot control the leakage of urine once their body relaxes.

This is not something that you and your dog have to suffer through in their old age because this can be corrected easily with medication. The most commonly used medication is Proin (Phenylpropanolamine) which is a chewable tablet that is taken twice daily. There is also a low dose estrogen supplement called Incurin which can be given once daily. It is a nice alternative for those dogs that Proin did not work for or for owners that prefer a less frequent dosing regimen.

If you were unaware that incontinence can be controlled in female dogs then give us a call or stop by and let us evaluate your dog to be certain there is no contributing bladder infection.

If your dog was not well controlled by Proin, then good news, we have a nice alternative option for you to try now.

