

Avian Diarrhea

Diarrhea is usually a change in the nature and the quality of the feces (poop). Owners frequently will think that their bird has diarrhea when in fact true avian diarrhea is uncommon.

Runny droppings are most commonly not all diarrhea but rather “polyuria,” which is the medical term for increased urination. A variety of normal and abnormal causes exist for avian polyuria.

Normal causes for polyuria- excessive ingestion of watery foods or water; hormonal changes due to female activity; stress or anxiety.

Abnormal causes of polyuria- phosphate flush due mineral malnutrition (most commonly a seed and fruit diet), kidney disease, pancreatic disease, metal poisoning, liver disease, bacterial infections, female disease.

While true diarrhea, however rare is always cause for concern, most cases of avian polyuria also warrant an avian veterinary examination.

