

# The Normal Canine – Urogenital Rectal Exam (Exam 4)

Dr. Michael Nappier assisted by Courtney Snead

Videos in The Normal Canine series are available at: <http://doi.org/10.7294/W4M61HDZ>

Virginia-Maryland College of Veterinary Medicine (VMCWM) and Virginia Tech Libraries

Virginia Tech

August 2017

Video length: Three minutes and 14 seconds

## Transcript

Okay. We're gonna move on to the last portion of our physical exam. The urogenital and rectal exam. So to start with for him, we're gonna start with our urogenital exam. And since he's a boy, we're gonna have a look at his penis. And we'll just have a gentle feel, feeling for any abnormalities.

And very quickly, we're just gonna extrude it from its sheath. Just briefly, to make sure that we're not seeing any masses or any discharge. Once we've done that, if he was an intact male, we would go ahead and feel his testicles. He's been neutered, but things that we would be feeling for would be symmetry and any lumps or bumps.

Pain or swelling. For the girls, we're gonna go ahead at this point and lift our tail. And we'd be looking at our vulva and looking for our vulvar folds, looking for any redness, swelling, discharge, or asymmetry. So we're gonna move on now to our digital rectal exam and for that we're going to put on a glove and we then have some lubricant.

So, to start with, we wanna look at the rectum externally and again, we're looking for any asymmetry or any discharge, any lumps or bumps. This point would also be a good time to go ahead and get our digital rectal temperature. So get a thermometer and lube there. So at this point, we will go ahead with our internal digital rectal exam.

We're gonna go ahead and insert our finger which with lubricant and we're gonna do so gently. Giving the dog sometime to adjust to our finger's presence. As we're going in we wanna feel 360 degrees around the pelvic canal. And again we're feeling for any lumps, bumps, anything is asymmetrical.

For a male dog then we're gonna head forward over the bone of pelvis and we wanna feel for prostate glands. For a neutered male it should be relatively small. About the size of two lime beans or so, and should be bi-lobed, and symmetrical and non-painful. For an intact male dog, it's going to be a little be larger, and may actually be a little be a little bit further off the brim of the pelvis forward.

As we're coming out, we're gonna feel dorsally for any enlarged lymph nodes. And we should be able to feel the urethra eventually along the floor of the pelvis. As we're coming out with our finger, we're gonna go ahead and feel for the anal glands. Which should be unilateral and slightly ventral right by the external opening on either side.

For him, they ought to be the size of a kidney bean. They should be symmetrical, should be non-painful. If we think that they are enlarged. We should consider expressing some of the fluid from them. And we go ahead and just squeeze gently until we get some of the fluid to come out.

That point we can also once we have withdrawn on our finger we can also look for texture and type of stool that we have.

## Ownership & License information

© Michael Nappier

Videos in this series are available at: <http://doi.org/10.7294/W4M61HDZ>



Licensed with a Creative Commons Attribution 4.0 license <https://creativecommons.org/licenses/by/4.0>

You are free to:

Share — copy and redistribute the material in any medium or format

Adapt — remix, transform, and build upon the material for any purpose, even commercially.

The licensor cannot revoke these freedoms as long as you follow the license terms.

Under the following terms:

Attribution — You must give appropriate credit, provide a link to the license, and indicate if changes were made. You may do so in any reasonable manner, but not in any way that suggests the licensor endorses you or your use.

No additional restrictions — You may not apply legal terms or technological measures that legally restrict others from doing anything the license permits.

## Disclaimer

The information in this video is intended for educational purposes only and is not meant to take the place of veterinary care or services your canine may need. Please see your veterinarian about any health concerns.