

Udder Edema

Udder edema is indicated by swelling of the lower part of the udder due to excessive fluid accumulation between the milk secretory cells. Often the swelling extends forward, under the skin in front of the udder.

The cause of udder edema is unknown, although there is some evidence to indicate that excessive sodium or potassium intake prepartum might increase its severity.

Effective treatment of cows with udder edema is limited to massaging swollen tissue in an upward direction for 15-20 minutes after each milking, in an attempt to help drain excess fluid into the general circulation. Diuretics may help by increasing fluid excretion. Some diuretic treatments also contain corticosteroids which may reduce inflammation.

for more information:

[Fresh Cow Problems: How to control them](#), *Hoard's Dairyman Books*