

Ipet's Ally Q and A 01/11/2022

I'm Dr. Ruth Roberts, your pet's ally. I hope that everybody is having a great day today. We've got some questions coming up so let me pop over to my cheat sheet here.

1. How do you go about the supplementation?

Klaire is a company I've used off and on for a lot of years. Their quality is quite good. The nice thing for pets is that the dosing amount is in 6 tablets so it's easy to get it correct for the weight. If your pup is tolerating the Holistic Total Body Support well, then really this covers you for everything – the choline, iron, and copper. Also, the Mega Mucosa, the MegaSporeBiotic and the RestorFlora, are more specific for repairing the intestines. Out of all of these three, if you have finished the MegaMucosa and the RestorFlora, you can kind of go by the wayside and then long-term you would use MegaSporeBiotic.

2. Susan: What do soft gels Omega-3 fatty acids do?

What you're going to have to be careful about with this one is the vitamin A because this product is actually pretty low in Omega-3 fatty acids. It also got a vitamin D and vitamin E, so to get to a those of say 500 mg of Omega-3 fatty acids, you may end up with toxic dose of the vitamin D. I'd encourage you to look for products that do not include vitamin A, D and E, and find one that is just Omega-3 fatty acids. See if that helps. Otherwise, I would just check the liquid that you can get from Dr. Tobias and use a syringe to get down hatch, so to speak.

3. What is the difference between the regular crockpet and the kidney diet plan, and when to use them?

Essentially, the difference is that it is 2 pounds of protein instead of 3 pounds of protein to get it down to match the guideline from the prescription diet. Frankly, unless your pup's creatinine is more than 5 or 6, I really wouldn't reduce the protein unless the phosphorus is just not well controlled because what we tend to see with older pets when we reduce proteins is that we end up with muscular atrophy or muscle loss and more problems. Also, it does contain garlic and garlic is toxic to dogs in large quantities. For instance, the average 50-pound dog could eat one whole clove of raw garlic per day without any issues, so that's kind of it. Like many of the things that are

supposed to be poisonous or toxic to pets, it is dose dependent with the exception of hazelnuts and macadamia nuts. We still don't understand what creates toxicity but there is a problem with those.

4. Spirit: Possible sensitivities to carrots

So, after both meals on Saturday and Sunday night he had a well-formed stool ending in mush. On Monday it was okay and then this morning he had gurgly belly and the mushy stool ending in slime. Do I attribute this to the carrots? Probably. That's why I always say to test stuff and give it 72 hours because if it's a problem, it may take that long to show up.

5. Spirit: Does long-term use of melatonin cause problem(s)?

Suppose that in the first two days after the change he slept through the night and after that, he spent five days in a row of 2 or 3 barking spells and he's standing at the chair at the window. If taking the melatonin away in the morning created this change, I would suggest putting it back in. I think there's really not a problem with long-term melatonin administration unless there's something else going on that warrants the change.

6. What are the possible alternates for carrots?

You can try things like butternut squash, orange fleshed squashes and things of that nature. As far as carrots go; there are about 35 calories for a large carrot a piece and so four of those is 140 calories. You would need to make up the calorie just difference either with a little more fat or with some other carbohydrate. See if that makes sense.

7. What are other treatments for an eye infection if ofloxacin is not working?

. I would look at talking with a vet about autologous serum for the eyes. Essentially, what that is, is they draw blood sample from your pet and put it on a serum tube that does not have a serum separator, pin it down, pull the serum out and then use that to do eyedrops. The other option is there were some patches they had for a while to cover ulcers that doesn't work with an infection because it's just going to seal it in. However, I think your best bet is to do a culture and sensitivity test and make sure you know what's actually there.

That's what I've got for you guys today. Thank you all for helping me sort through these recipes. I think I have it nailed down. The basics are there but really the revisions were purely to make sure that I was covering all of the essential nutrients and everything was well covered. That's

what I've got for you this week. Many thanks for all that you do and for all of your support. Until next week, give everybody a hug and we'll go from there. Cheers!