

## グレイン・フリーのドッグフードについて



穀物を使用しない(いわゆるグレイン・フリーの)フードは現在、犬の拡張型心筋症(DCM)が関連している可能性があるとして、2018年から米国食品医薬局(FDA)が問題視しており、食物関連性 DCM として米国の獣医循環器専門医が調査しています。まだはっきりと結論は出てはませんが、グレイン・フリーのフードおよび、一部の豆を主原料としたフードは DCM と関連性があり、そういった事例に関連するフードメーカーのリストも挙げられています。

メーカーによっては市場向け資料を作成し、一部の栄養成分を変更するとしていますが、それがすなわち安全なフードということにはならない、と指摘されています。

拡張型心筋症は心臓の筋肉が薄く拡張し、血液を十分に送り出せなくなり、最終的にはうっ血性心不全を起こして命を落とす危険があります。このような変化が長く心臓の筋肉に起こると、不可逆性変化といって、元に戻らなくなります。注意点として、大手メーカーが治療用に製造している療法食や処方食にはこの問題はありません。

ペットに健康に長生きできるためにも、フードは十分に慎重に選んであげましょう。

<https://www.fda.gov/animal-veterinary/outbreaks-and-advisories/fda-investigation-potential-link-between-certain-diets-and-canine-dilated-cardiomyopathy>

Diet-Related Myocardial Failure in Dogs

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Introduction

In 2018, anecdotal reports emerged that some grain-free diets, or diets containing legumes as the main non-meat component, were resulting in taurine deficiency and potentially contributing to dilated cardiomyopathy (DCM). However, as the situation evolved, several groups of cardiologists have investigated this issue and have not come to a conclusion regarding how these diets cause DCM — some have implicated these diets causing taurine deficiency in a specific breed (e.g. Golden Retriever) (Olsen 2018)

(Morris Animal Foundation 2017), while others have shown a relationship between the implicated diets and DCM but failed to find an association with taurine deficiency (Adin et al 2018). Here's what we know so far.

What is the latest information about myocardial failure and grain-free diets?

In July 2018, the FDA first issued a warning about diet-associated DCM in dogs. This was based on observations of veterinary cardiologists, and reports to the FDA of "untoward" cases. Several cardiologists have investigated this issue and have not come to a single conclusion — some have implicated diets and taurine deficiency in specific breeds (e.g. Golden Retrievers) (Olsen 2018) (Morris Animal Foundation 2017), while others have shown a relationship between the implicated diets and DCM but failed to find a strong association with taurine deficiency (Adin et al 2018).

In June 2019, the FDA updated their warning about grain-free diets and DCM. In this report they provided data about the number of reports submitted, the breeds affected, and the companies most commonly involved. .

Which diets have been implicated?

Multiple grain-free diets made by smaller dog food manufacturers have been implicated. The June 2019 FDA report provides a list of pet food brands that have been most commonly implicated. Almost 50% of the cases reported to the FDA were being fed Acana, Zignature or Taste-of-the-Wild diets. However, 13 other companies' diets were also listed.

In one study, Kangaroo and Red Lentil diet was implicated (Adin et al 2018). Therefore, rather than focusing on specific brands, clinicians should focus on the main ingredients in any "grain-free" diet. Clinicians should note that several companies manufacturing such diets have started to address the concerns by producing marketing literature and possibly changing diet composition, but this does not mean that a particular diet is "OK". If it's grain-free and legume-based, and not a prescription diet for a specific clinical problem, then it is considered a suspect diet.

It is important to note that no prescription diets that are nutrient-restricted (i.e., from

the major prescription diet manufacturers) have been implicated or reported in sufficient numbers to warrant listing by the FDA.

Is taurine thought to play a role in grain-free-diet-associated myocardial failure?

Early in the investigation of grain-free diets and DCM, taurine was considered a potential cause. This was likely due to a high proportion of Golden retrievers being identified with myocardial failure. This breed is known to have issues with taurine metabolism (Kaplan et al 2018, Ontiveros et al 2020). However, subsequent investigations failed to find that association (Mansilla et al 2019, Adin et al 2021, Donadelli et al 2020). Therefore, currently, unless the breed is one that is recognized as susceptible to taurine deficiency, taurine analysis is not recommended. Many, however, still do supplement taurine.