



## Your Pet's Nutritional Health

**Dear Pet Owner,**

November is *Diabetes Awareness Month*. We recommend that all pets over the age of 7 years be screened annually for this disease.

### **Diabetes Mellitus**

Diabetes is a medical condition resulting in an excessive amount of glucose (sugar) in the blood. This is caused by a deficiency of insulin, which is a hormone secreted by the pancreas. The clinical signs seen in diabetes are largely related to the elevated concentrations of blood glucose and the inability of the body to use glucose as an energy source due to the deficiency of insulin.

**Clinical Signs:** The most common clinical signs seen in diabetic patients are an increase in water consumption and urination. Weight loss is also common feature, and an increase in appetite may be noticed in some animals. If you would like to schedule a screening for Diabetes for your pet, please contact us.

Learn more: <http://www.cat-dog-diabetes.com/>



Keep the below chart in mind this holiday season when your pets come begging for food. It doesn't take much for them to gain weight, especially when they're not getting as much exercise in the winter months. As always, if you have any questions or concerns you can email us at [LSAH1@metrocast.net](mailto:LSAH1@metrocast.net), or give us a call at 603-524-2553.

**Physiological Differences Between Human,  
Canine and Feline Digestive Systems**  
**A dog is not a human, And a cat is not a small dog!!**

The Physiological and dietary differences between humans, cats and dogs call for specific nutritional requirements. Thus, we do not feed a small breed dog, a large breed dog, a Persian cat the same way! Let's not allow our instinctively anthropomorphic reactions, detrimental to the health of our companion animals, to get in the way. The table below illustrates some examples of these differences.

<b>Digestive tract weight/body weight ratio</b>	<b>10-12% Human</b>	<b>2.7% for giant dog And 7% for a small dog</b>	<b>2.8 to 3.5% Cat</b>
Area of olfactory membrane:	3-10 cm	60-200cm	20cm
Olfactory cells:	2-10 million	80-220 million	60-70 million
Taste buds:	9,000 taste buds	1700 taste buds	500 taste buds
Dentition:	32 teeth	42 teeth	30 teeth
Mastication:	Prolonged	very little	no mastication
Salivary digestive enzymes:	Yes	No	No
Food intake time:	30-60 minutes	1-5 minutes	multiple small meals
Daily energy need:	1800-2500 kcal/day	130-3500 kcal/day	200-300 kcal/day
Stomach PH:	2-4	1-2	1-2
Length of small intestine:	6-6.5 m	2-6 m	1-1.7 m
Length of large intestine:	1.5 m	20-80 cm	20-40 cm
Average intestinal transit time:	3 days	24-48 hours	24-36 hours
Adult recommended carbohydrate intake:	60-65% of dry matter	very low	very low
Adult recommended protein intake:	8-12% of dry matter	20-40% of dry matter	25-40% dry matter
Adult recommended fat intake:	25-30% of dry matter	10-65% of dry matter	15-45% dry matter
Diet:	Omnivorous	Semi-Carnivorous	Carnivorous

## **Obesity Awareness**

Your pet being overweight or obese can cause very serious health risks. The most common health risks include:

- Diabetes
- Osteoarthritis
- Respiratory Disorders
- High Blood Pressure
- Kidney & Liver Problems
- Cancer
- Shorter Life Span



We offer Royal Canin weight management and weight loss diets. These diets are for any client who has an overweight pet and would like to see them live a longer healthier life.

If you would like to take advantage of any of our Royal Canin diets, or just discuss your pet's weight and nutrition, please contact us by phone or email [LSAH1@metrocast.net](mailto:LSAH1@metrocast.net). To start your pet on a weight loss regimen we would like to have them come in for a starting weight. Then we can choose the diet that will best suit your pet's weight loss needs.

***We all want our pets happy and healthy!***



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