

Saturday, December 7th, 2024



Transforming Lives™

Small Animal Clinical Nutrition Symposium

AGING CATS & DOGS





AGENDA

Saturday
Dec. 7th
2024

7:30am — 8:30am	Registration
8:30am — 8:35am	Welcome
8:45am — 9:25am	Managing Common Senior Dog Health Conditions & Comorbidities with Nutrition Camille Torres-Henderson, DVM, DABVP, DACVIM (Nutrition)
9:35am — 10:25am	Managing Common Senior Cat Health Conditions & Comorbidities with Nutrition Camille Torres-Henderson, DVM, DABVP, DACVIM (Nutrition)
10:25am — 10:40am	Break
10:40am — 11:30am	Senior Pet Diets Camille Torres-Henderson, DVM, DABVP, DACVIM (Nutrition)
11:30am — 12:00pm	Morning Session Q&A Camille Torres-Henderson, DVM, DABVP, DACVIM (Nutrition)
12:00pm — 1:00pm	Lunch
1:00pm — 1:30pm	Weighty Matters: Tackling Canine & Feline Obesity In Senior Pets - Insights from the Healthy Weight Clinic & Pet Health Center Katherine Oakes, DVM
1:30pm — 2:20pm	Canine Cognitive Dysfunction Susan Nelson, DVM
2:20pm — 2:40pm	Break
2:40pm — 3:30pm	Nutrition Tips and Tricks for the Senior Patient: Diets and Esophageal Feeding Tubes Ally Sptiz, DVM, (Residency Trained in Small Animal Clinical Nutrition))
3:30pm — 4:00pm	Afternoon Session Q&A



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Transforming Lives™

Senior Pet Diets

**CAMILLE TORRES-HENDERSON, DVM,
DABVP, DACVIM (NUTRITION)**





Selecting a Diet for Your Senior Patient

CAMILLE TORRES DVM DABVP DACVIM
(NUTRITION)

COLORADO STATE UNIVERSITY

Goals

- Discuss guidelines for senior pet food
- Review how to use the label to select a diet
- Identify diets that meet unique needs

A close-up photograph of a small, dark-colored dog with white markings on its face, licking a large pile of colorful, irregularly shaped kibble. The kibble is in shades of red, orange, and brown. The dog's pink tongue is extended, touching the food. The background is plain white.

Guidelines for senior petfood

AAFCO Label requirements

Brand and Product Name

Name of Species for which the pet food is intended

Quantity Statement- net weight or net volume

Nutritional Adequacy Statement- Statement that indicates the food is complete and balanced for a particular life stage.

Ingredient Statement- Ingredients must be listed in order of predominance by weight.

Guaranteed Analysis-The minimum percent of crude protein and crude fat, and the maximum percent of crude fiber and moisture are required.

Feeding Directions

Name and address of manufacturer or distributor



Nutritional Adequacy Statement

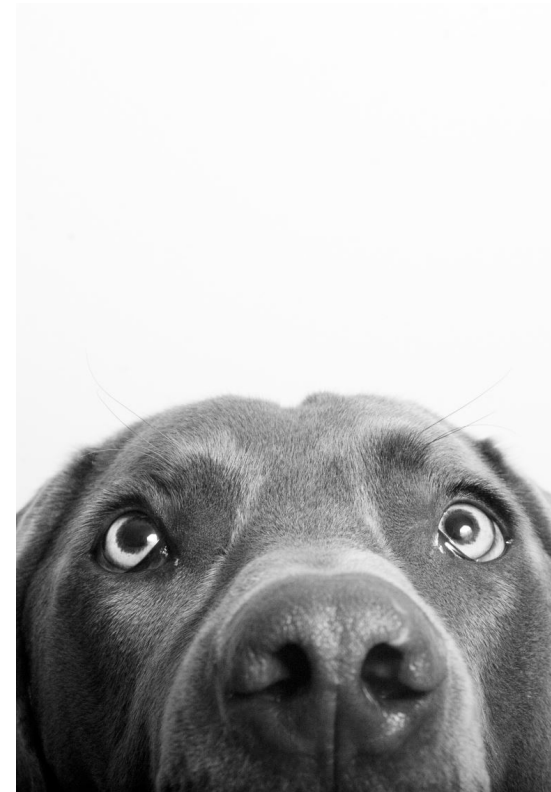
Maintenance

Growth

Growth for large breed dogs

All Life Stages

Supplemental or intermittent feeding only



AAFCO- Senior pet food

We do not have specific guidelines for senior pet food

Diets labeled as “senior” that are complete and balanced are formulated to meet the requirements of:

- Adult maintenance
- All life stages

All Life Stages:

Nutrients with a higher requirement for growth compared to adult maintenance (AAFCO)



Dogs

- Protein
- Copper
- Fat
- Calcium
- Phosphorus
- EPA/DHA



Cats

- Protein
- Copper
- Calcium
- Phosphorus
- Vitamin A
- EPA/DHA



Nutrients to consider for senior dogs and cats

Digestibility

Palatability

Energy density

Kibble size or texture

Nutrients for illness:

- Protein
- Fat
- Fiber
- Minerals



I want to feed my senior dog and cat
the best food that is out there...

Factors to consider when discussing nutrition

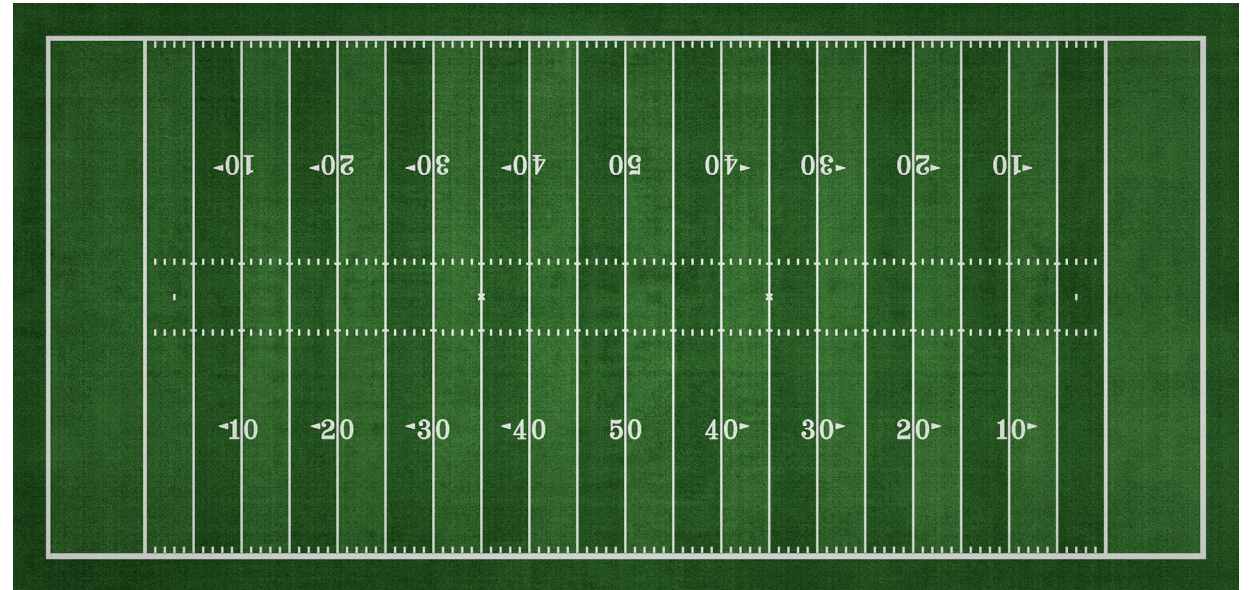
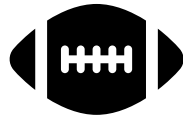
Individual patient need

Limitations

- Financial
- Time
- Family
- Other pets

Emotions

- Build a relationship
- Elicit owners perspective
- Ask for permission
- Check for understanding



Nutrients of concern- gastrointestinal

Condition	Nutrient of Concern	Examples
Pancreatitis- dog	Fat	Limit dietary fat intake, low-fat diets
Chronic Enteropathy	Type of Protein	Hydrolyzed protein, novel protein sources
	Amount of Fat	Low-fat or moderate-fat diets
	Fiber	Soluble fiber sources, such as psyllium or beet pulp
Adverse Reaction to Food	Type of Protein	Novel protein sources, limited ingredient diets

Nutrients of concern- renal

Protein

Digestibility

Phosphorus

Calcium phosphorus ratio

Fat- energy density

Omega 3 fatty acids





How do you select a diet that will meet the nutrient targets for your senior patient with and without illness?



PET FOOD LABEL- FRIEND OR FOE?



Thinking about what our patients need

Cats and dogs are fed to meet their energy requirements

Older patients with decreased energy requirements, will eat less food

This can be problematic when feeding a diet that is high in calories

- Feeding less food to prevent obesity may lead to restriction of nutrients while trying to restrict calories



Diet selection

To make diet recommendations we need to be able to know how the nutrients of a product align with our nutrients of concern

- Protein
- Fat
- Fiber
- Phosphorus (when available)

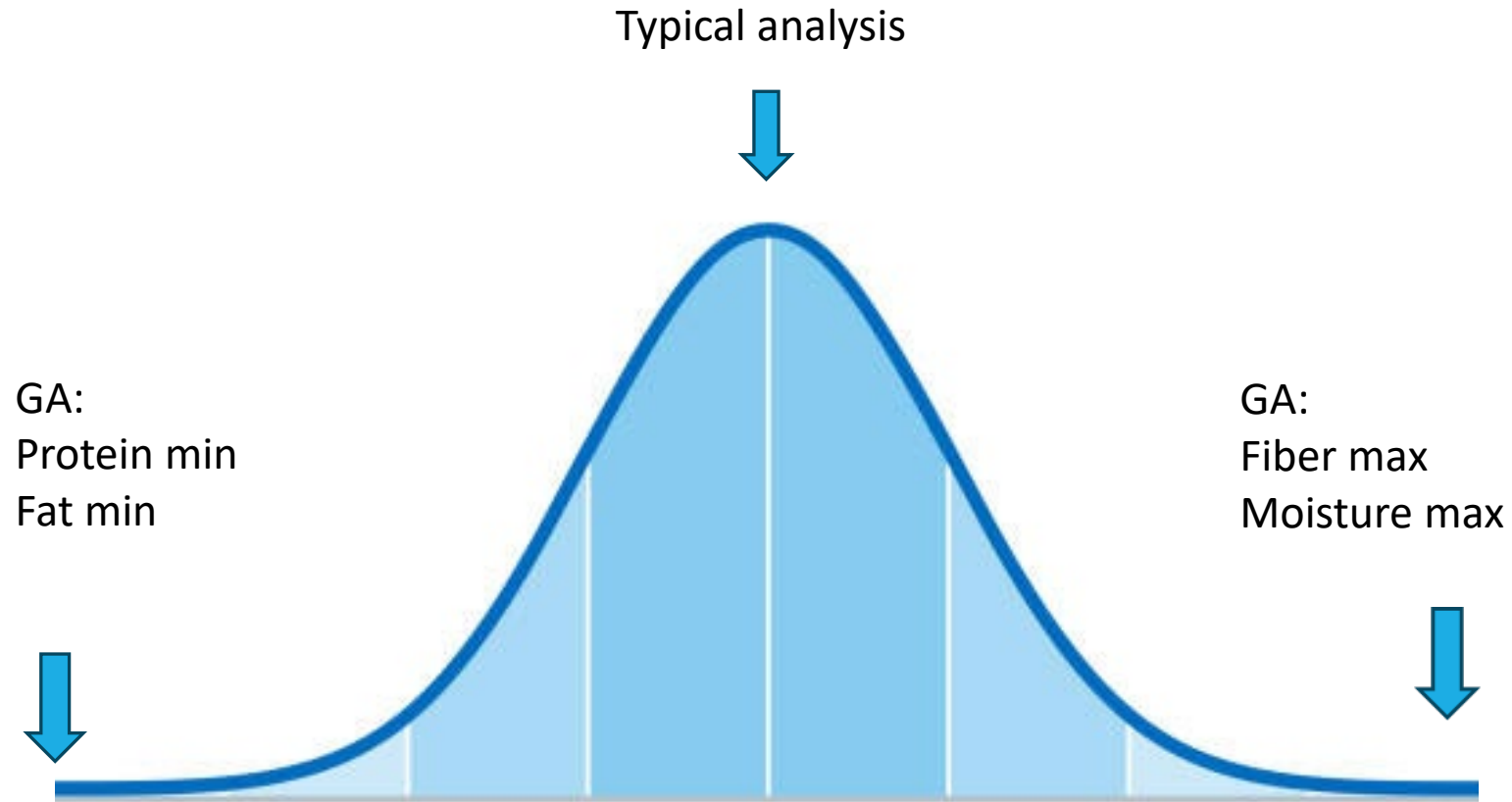
Breaking down “The Back of the Bag”

To make diet recommendations we need to be able to know how if nutrients of a product align with our nutrients of concern

- Crude Fiber
- Crude Fat
- Crude Protein
- Phosphorus
- Types of fiber
- Types of fatty acid



Keep in mind...



The guaranteed analysis represents minimum or maximum nutrient amounts

What is the percent on the guaranteed analysis a percent of?

- A) Percent of the nutrient per cup
- B) Percent of the nutrient per 1000 calories
- C) Percent of the nutrient on a dry matter basis
- D) Percent of the nutrient per 100 grams



We feed our patients to meet their caloric needs

Diets do not have the same amount of calories per 100 grams/per cup/per kg

Dog and cats will eat more or less of a diet on a weight basis based on the energy density of the diet

As the amount of food is adjusted on a weight or cup basis, the amount of nutrients consumed will change

Question:

Two diets have 9% crude protein- does that mean they provide the same amount of protein?



How to answer this question

Compare the nutrients on an energy basis

- **Calorie content basis** (g/1000 kcal or g/100 kcal)
- **Metabolizable Energy** (% ME)

Where can you find this information?

First option (preferred option)- look at product guide

Second option- If a product guide isn't available:
Calculate it or convert it



Calculate it: Calorie
content basis

grams/1000 kcal

OR

grams/100 kcal

Typical Analysis per 1000 Kcal:

Nutrient	Unit	Renal Support Early Consult dry	Renal Support Early Consult loaf in sauce	Renal Support A dry	Renal Support F dry	Renal Support S dry
Moisture	g	14.4	766.6	13.9	13.8	13.1
Protein	g	73.2	84.1	58.3	65.1	58.5
Fat	g	36.6	49.5	43.1	42.6	51.3
Omega-6 fatty acids	g	9.1	6.9	9.2	9.0	10.9
Omega-3 fatty acids	g	3.5	2.5	1.9	2.1	2.1
EPA + DHA	g	2.0	1.7	1.0	1.0	1.0
Carbohydrate (NFE)	g	109.5	68.2	113.1	105.1	93.3
Crude Fiber	g	11.5	7.9	10.9	9.0	7.2
Total Dietary Fiber	g	33.2	19.8	27.1	26.8	23.9
Calcium	g	1.8	1.6	2.1	1.6	1.7
Phosphorus	g	1.3	1.2	1.1	1.1	1.0
Potassium	g	2.1	1.8	2.3	2.3	2.1
Sodium	g	1.0	0.9	0.9	1.0	1.0
Magnesium	g	0.2	0.1	0.2	0.2	0.2
Copper	mg	3.9	3.1	3.8	3.8	3.6
Zinc	mg	55.9	53.4	60.1	52.6	49.7
Vitamin D	IU	209.1	178.0	202.8	225.3	167.1
Taurine	g	0.5	1.2	0.6	0.6	0.6

Grams of
nutrients
per 1000
kcal



ROYAL CANIN® VETERINARY HEALTH NUTRITION
FELINE VITAL SUPPORT



	per 100 kcal ME ³						
	k/d Early Stage Cat Food		k/d Cat Food				
	Dry (with Chicken)	Stew (Chicken, Vegetable & Rice)	Dry (with Chicken)	Dry (with Ocean Fish)	Stew (Chicken & Vegetable)	Stew (Vegetable & Tuna)	Minced (with Chicken)
Protein	7.9 g	7.6 g	6.7 g	6.8 g	6.8 g	7.6 g	6.8 g
Fat	4.9 g	5.3 g	5.4 g	5.4 g	5.6 g	6.5 g	5.3 g
Carbohydrate / NFE	8.9 g	7.9 g	8.7 g	8.6 g	8.7 g	9.1 g	9 g
Crude Fiber	0.3 g	0.6 g	0.7 g	0.7 g	0.7 g	0.7 g	0.5 g
Total Dietary Fiber	1.4 g	1.7 g	1.6 g	1.5 g	2 g	2.1 g	1.1 g
Calcium	167 mg	193 mg	183 mg	182 mg	173 mg	213 mg	192 mg
Phosphorous	130 mg	130 mg	119 mg	120 mg	110 mg	127 mg	110 mg
Sodium	58 mg	64 mg	57 mg	61 mg	57 mg	61 mg	59 mg
Potassium	174 mg	210 mg	171 mg	171 mg	250 mg	304 mg	253 mg
Magnesium	19 mg	13 mg	18 mg	17 mg	13 mg	15 mg	12 mg
Total Omega-3 FA	377 mg	288 mg	244 mg	255 mg	258 mg	305 mg	237 mg
Total Omega-6 FA	1089 mg	827 mg	1212 mg	1181 mg	925 mg	1150 mg	870 mg
Vitamin C	3.17 mg	8.79 mg	2.47 mg	2.45 mg	3.4 mg	3.47 mg	2.18 mg
Vitamin E	26 IU	17.71 IU	18.79 IU	18.7 IU	17.05 IU	23.64 IU	22.77 IU
CALORIC DISTRIBUTION:							
Fat %	41	46	46	46	47	49	45
Protein %	28	27	24	24	23	23	24
Carbohydrates %	31	28	31	30	30	28	31
Metabolizable Energy:							
kcal per Cup	526		534	506			
Ounces per Cup	4.5		4.5	4.3			
Cups per Pound	3.52		3.52	3.74			
kcal per 5.5 oz Can							195
kcal per 2.9 oz Can		79			70	70	

Grams of
nutrient
per 100
kcal

Back to the question:

Do they have the same amount of protein?

Crude Protein	9.0% min
Crude Fat	2.5% min
Crude Fiber	1.0% max
Moisture	82.0% max
Ash	2.5% max
Taurine	0.05% min

Diet A: 825 kcal/kg

Analysis:

Protein	9.0% Min
Fat	1.5% Min
Fiber	1.0% Max
Ash	2.0% Max
Moisture	86.0% Max

Diet B 1100 kcal per kg

Calculate estimated grams of protein per 100 kcal

Information needed

- Calories per kg
- % crude protein

Equation: (Nutrient on GA ÷ kcal per kg) X 1000 = grams of nutrient per 100 kcal

(Crude protein/calories per kg) X 1000 = grams of protein per 100 kcal

Crude Protein	9.0% min
Crude Fat	2.5% min
Crude Fiber	1.0% max
Moisture	82.0% max
Ash	2.5% max
Taurine	0.05% min

825 Calories per kg

Analysis:

Protein	9.0% Min
Fat	1.5% Min
Fiber	1.0% Max
Ash	2.0% Max
Moisture	86.0% Max

Diet B 1100 kcal per kg

Math time

Crude protein 9%

Diet A 825 Calories per kg

OR

Diet B 1100 kcal per kg

$$(9/825) = 0.0109$$

$$0.0104 \times 1000 = \text{Diet A } \underline{10.9 \text{ grams of protein per 100 calories}}$$

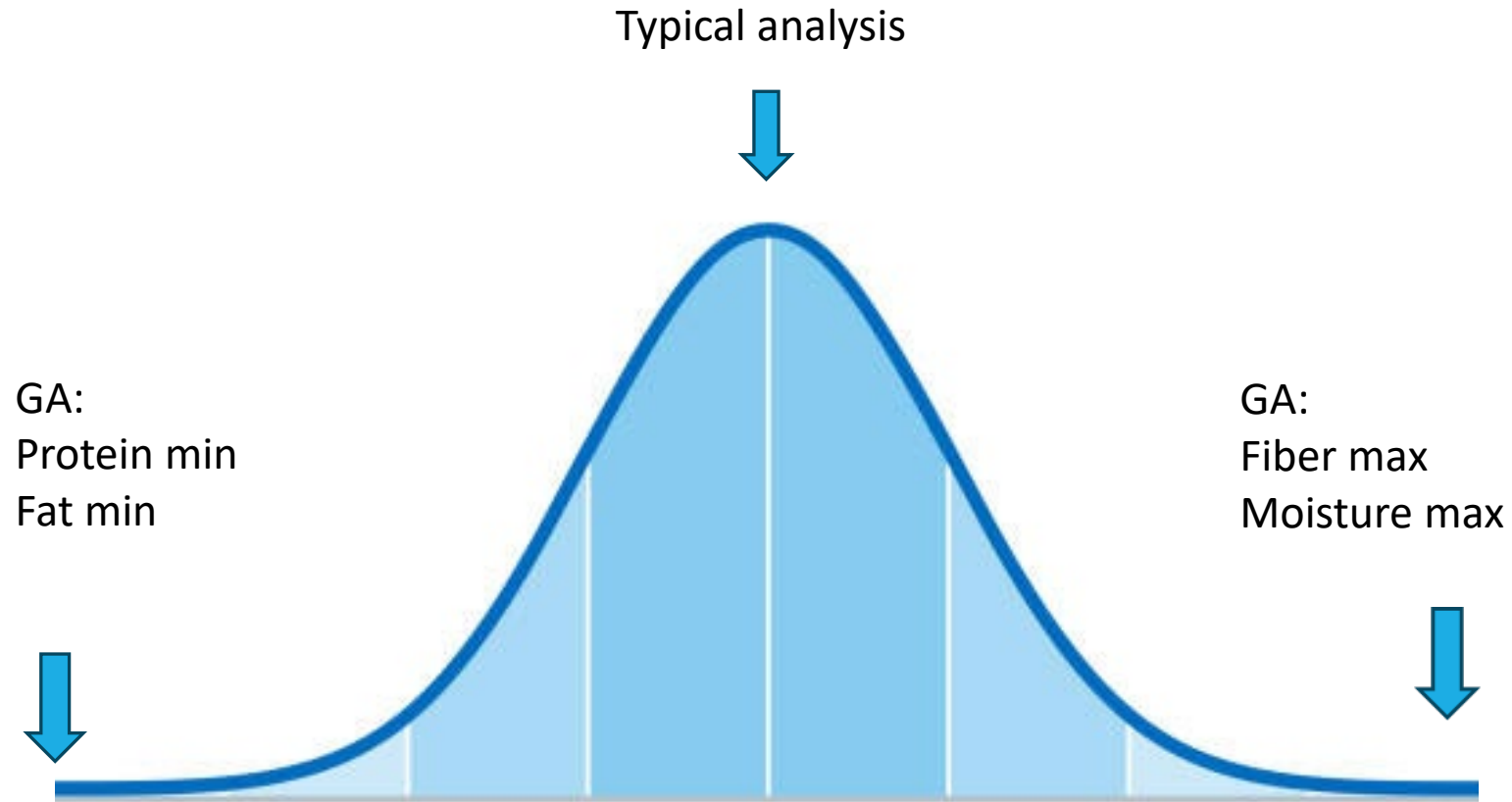
$$0.0104 \times 10000 = 109 \text{ grams/1000 calories}$$

$$(9/1100) = 0.0082$$

$$0.0082 \times 1000 = \text{Diet B } \underline{8.2 \text{ grams of protein per 100 calories}}$$

$$0.0082 \times 10000 = 82 \text{ grams/1000 calories}$$

But remember...



The guaranteed analysis represents minimum or maximum nutrient amounts

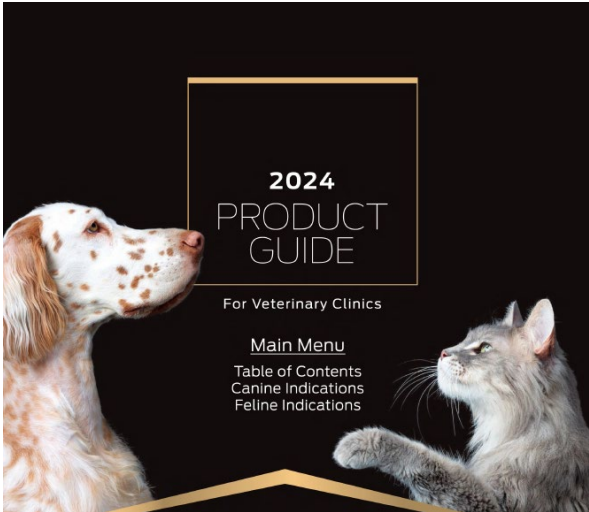
AVERAGE NUTRIENT CONTENT						
	DRY			CANNED		
	PER 100 KCAL ME	AS FED	DRY MATTER	PER 100 KCAL ME	AS FED	DRY MATTER
Protein	8.99 g	36.32%	39.07%	9.45 g	9.64%	37.79%
Fat	3.59 g	14.52%	15.62%	4.38 g	4.47%	17.53%
Carbohydrate	8.24 g	33.29%	35.81%	8.32 g	8.49%	33.28%
Crude Fiber	0.72 g	2.90%	3.12%	1.94 g	1.98%	7.76%
Total Dietary Fiber	2.75 g	11.10%	11.94%	3.46 g	3.53%	13.84%
Soluble Fiber	0.35 g	1.41%	1.52%	0.54 g	0.55%	2.16%
Insoluble Fiber	2.40 g	9.69%	10.42%	2.92 g	2.98%	11.69%
Calcium	0.17 g	0.67%	0.72%	0.18 g	0.18%	0.72%
Phosphorus	0.09 g	0.37%	0.40%	0.10 g	0.10%	0.39%
Potassium	0.35 g	1.40%	1.51%	0.38 g	0.39%	1.54%
Sodium	0.09 g	0.36%	0.39%	0.09 g	0.10%	0.38%
Chloride	0.32 g	1.30%	1.40%	0.43 g	0.44%	1.72%
Magnesium	0.02 g	0.10%	0.11%	0.01 g	0.01%	0.04%
Copper	0.41 mg	16.66 mg/kg	17.92 mg/kg	0.33 mg	3.39 mg/kg	13.30 mg/kg
Zinc	5.39 mg	217.90 mg/kg	234.40 mg/kg	2.62 mg	26.68 mg/kg	104.61 mg/kg
Taurine	0.05 g	0.22%	0.24%	0.07 g	0.07%	0.29%
Vitamin A	267 IU	10,803 IU/kg	11,621 IU/kg	2,241 IU	22,858 IU/kg	89,640 IU/kg
Vitamin E	16.44 IU	664.20 IU/kg	714.50 IU/kg	17.54 IU	178.92 IU/kg	701.66 IU/kg
Total Omega-6 Fatty Acids	0.36 g	1.47%	1.58%	0.82 g	0.84%	3.27%
Total Omega-3 Fatty Acids	0.13 g	0.54%	0.58%	0.15 g	0.15%	0.61%
EPA+DHA	0.10 g	0.42%	0.45%	0.11 g	0.11%	0.45%

DIGESTION TEST RESULTS†		
DIGESTIBILITY:	DRY	CANNED
Total, %	87.6	83.5
Protein, %	92.8	86.6
Fat, %	90.5	93.2
Carbohydrate, %	89.4	89.6
Calorie, %	89.4	85.9
PERCENTAGE OF METABOLIZABLE ENERGY FROM:		
Protein, %	34.6	33.3
Fat, %	33.6	37.5
Carbohydrate, %	31.8	29.3

†Based on digestion testing conducted at the Purina PetCare Technology Centers

- 1 Adjustments must be made for environmental conditions, activity level, and body condition. Provide fresh water in a clean container daily.
- 2 Kilocalories of metabolizable energy (ME)
- 3 This daily amount should be divided into several small meals throughout the day.
- 4 For each additional pound of body weight, feed an additional 24 kilocalories.
- 5 Forrester SD, Kruger JM, Allen TA. Feline Lower Urinary Tract Diseases. In: Hand MS, Thatcher CD, Remillard RL, Roudebush P, editors. Small Animal Clinical Nutrition. 5th ed. Topeka (KS): Mark Morris Institute; 2010 p.932.

Preference: Use the product guide when available



2024

PRODUCT

GUIDE

For Veterinary Clinics

[Main Menu](#)

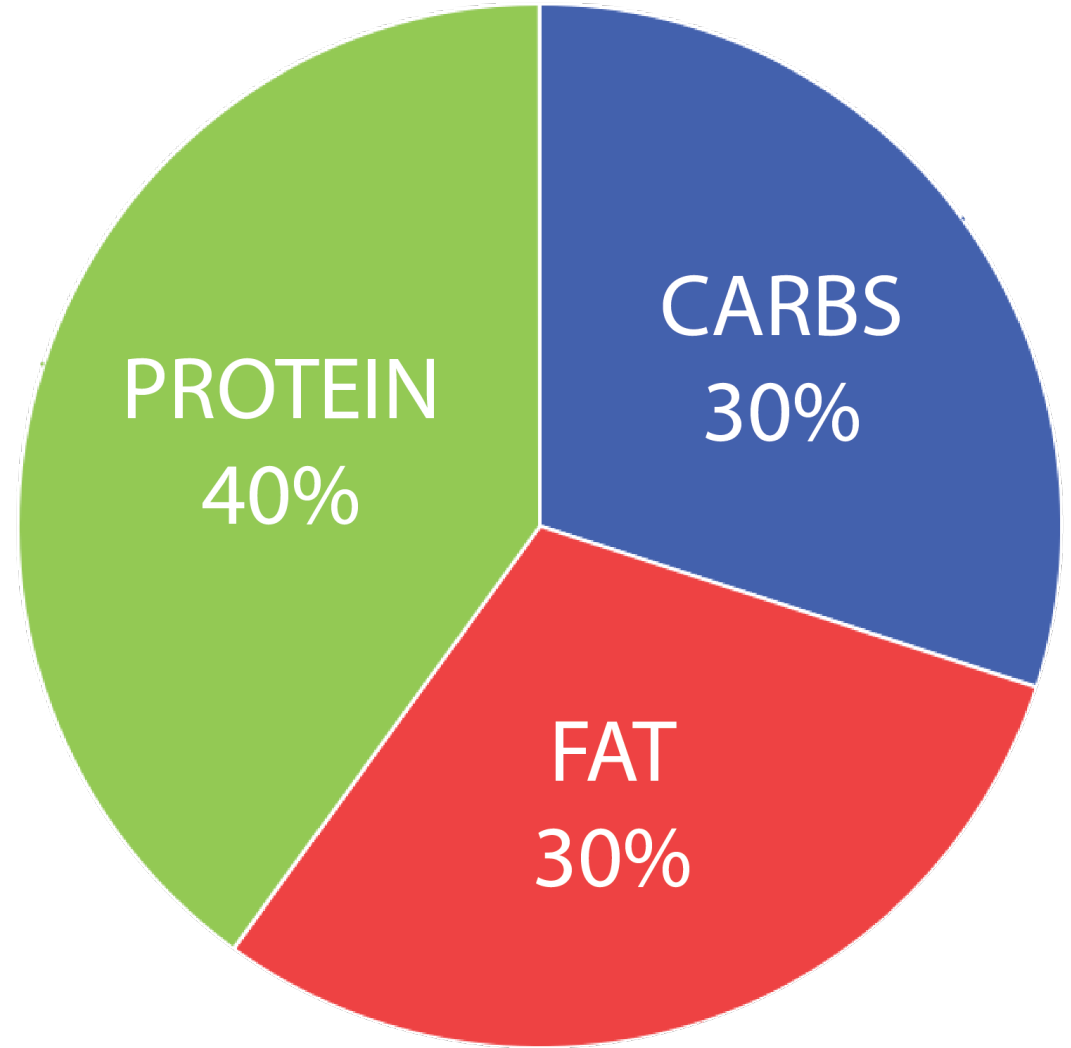
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[Canine Indications](#)

[Feline Indications](#)

Convert it:
Percent metabolizable
energy
%ME
Caloric distribution

The percent of calories
coming from that
macronutrient



Nutrient	Modified Atwater Factor
Protein	3.5 kcal/g
Fat	8.5 kcal/g
Carbohydrate	3.5 kcal/g

Modified Atwater Factors

Used to estimate how many calories are coming from protein, fat and carbohydrates



Izzy- 14 year old, spayed female, Welsh Corgi

Age related changes

- Osteoarthritis
- Cognitive dysfunction
- Decreased ability to prehend food
- Hearing loss
- Decreased lean body mass

Disease related changes

- Proteinuria (UPC- 2.3)
- Renal azotemia (BUN- 63, Creat- 2.3; USG- 1.022)
- Intermittent gastrointestinal signs, suspect chronic pancreatitis

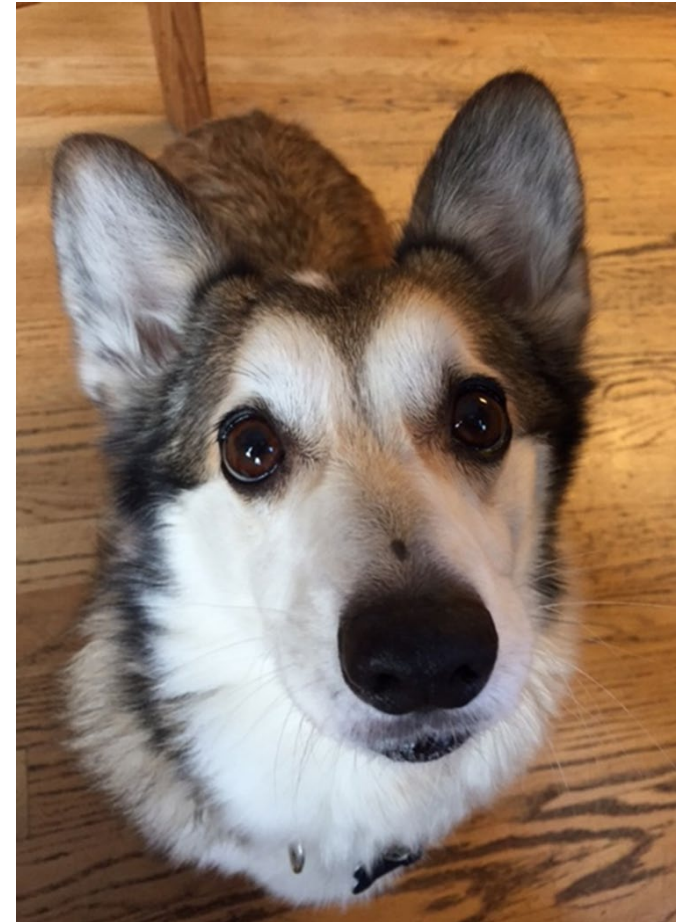
Nutrients of concern for Izzy

Disease	Protein	Omega-3 Fatty Acids	Phosphorus	Digestibility	Fat	Energy Density	Palatability
Proteinuria	Low	Yes	Controlled?				
Renal Dysfunction	Low	Yes	Low	High	High	High	High
Gastrointestinal Disease/ Pancreatitis	Type of protein			High	Low	High	High
Underweight	Moderate to high	Yes		High	High	High	High
Muscle Loss (Cachexia)	High	Yes		High	High	High	High

Izzy's diet- Always start with the current diet

Guaranteed Analysis

Crude Protein % min	16%
Crude Fat % min	6%
Crude Fiber % max	1%
Moisture % max	66%



% Metabolizable Energy also called Caloric Distribution



	per 100 kcal ME ³					
	k/d Dog Food					
	Dry (with Chicken)	Dry (with Lamb)	Stew (Chicken & Vegetable)	Stew (Beef & Vegetable)	Loaf (with Chicken)	Loaf (with Lamb)
Protein	3.6 g	3.6 g	3.7 g	3.6 g	3.6 g	3.5 g
Fat	4.9 g	5.1 g	5.3 g	5.4 g	5.8 g	5.8 g
Carbohydrate / NFE	13.1 g	12.6 g	11.9 g	11.8 g	10.9 g	11 g
Crude Fiber	0.3 g	0.4 g	0.8 g	0.8 g	0.9 g	0.9 g
Total Dietary Fiber	1.3 g	1.6 g	2.2 g	2.2 g	2 g	1.8 g
Calcium	184 mg	198 mg	173 mg	175 mg	166 mg	184 mg
Phosphorous	75 mg	76 mg	71 mg	61 mg	55 mg	61 mg
Sodium	41 mg	46 mg	45 mg	40 mg	46 mg	40 mg
Potassium	174 mg	190 mg	225 mg	233 mg	193 mg	199 mg
Magnesium	25 mg	27 mg	35 mg	32 mg	33 mg	32 mg
Total Omega-3 FA	215 mg	219 mg	294 mg	306 mg	567 mg	511 mg
Total Omega-6 FA	1032 mg	1016 mg	864 mg	846 mg	897 mg	854 mg
Vitamin C	3.35 mg	3.36 mg	4.11 mg	3.93 mg	3.18 mg	2.29 mg
Vitamin E	16.77 IU	16.78 IU	22.16 IU	20.15 IU	16.2 IU	18.29 IU
CALORIC DISTRIBUTION:						
Fat %	42	43	45	46	49	49
Protein %	12	13	13	13	12	12
Carbohydrates %	46	44	42	42	38	38
Metabolizable Energy:						
Kcal per Cup	397	454				
Ounces per Cup	3.5	4				
Cups per Pound	4.6	3.99				
Kcal per large Can			344 / 12.5 oz	329 / 12.5 oz	433 / 13 oz	421 / 13 oz
Kcal per 5.5 oz Can			152			

Guaranteed Analysis Converter

It can be difficult to compare the protein, fat and carb levels between different foods by using the information on a package's label (especially in can vs dry food).

Note: the calculated values may be different from those used by the manufacturer since the actual digestibility of protein, fat, carb and ash must be estimated. Minimum values can also differ from the typical or actual value—so care should be used as protein and fat levels may be higher than the label indicates.

Guaranteed Analysis Values

% Crude Protein, min

0

%

% Crude Fat, min

0

%

% Moisture, max

0

%

% Fiber, max

0

%

% Ash, max

3

%

% CHO (by difference)

97

%

Caloric Distribution Estimate*

0 % ME Protein

0 % ME Fat

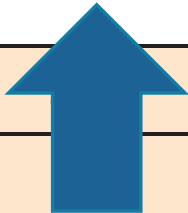
100 % ME Carb

Calcium	184 mg	198 mg	173 mg	175 mg
Phosphorous	75 mg	76 mg	71 mg	61 mg
Sodium	41 mg	46 mg	45 mg	40 mg
Potassium	174 mg	190 mg	225 mg	233 mg
Magnesium	25 mg	27 mg	35 mg	32 mg
Total Omega-3 FA	215 mg	219 mg	294 mg	306 mg
Total Omega-6 FA	1032 mg	1016 mg	864 mg	846 mg
Vitamin C	3.35 mg	3.36 mg	4.11 mg	3.93 mg
Vitamin E	16.77 IU	16.78 IU	22.16 IU	20.15 IU

CALORIC DISTRIBUTION:

Fat %	42	43	45	46
Protein %	12	13	13	13
Carbohydrates %	46	44	42	42

Metabolizable Energy:

Kcal per Cup		454		
Ounces per Cup		4		
Cups per Pound		4.6	3.99	

Guaranteed Analysis

Crude Protein % min	16%
Crude Fat % min	6%
Crude Fiber % max	1%
Moisture % max	66%

Guaranteed Analysis Values

% Crude Protein, min	<input type="text" value="16"/>	%
% Crude Fat, min	<input type="text" value="6"/>	%
% Moisture, max	<input type="text" value="66"/>	%
% Fiber, max	<input type="text" value="1"/>	%
% Ash, max	<input type="text" value="3"/>	%
% CHO (by difference)	<input type="text" value="8"/>	%

* The following "modified Atwater" factors are used: 3.5 kcal/g protein, 8.5 kcal/g fat, and 3.5 kcal/g carbohydrate.

CALCULATE

Guaranteed analysis converter:
BalancelT.com

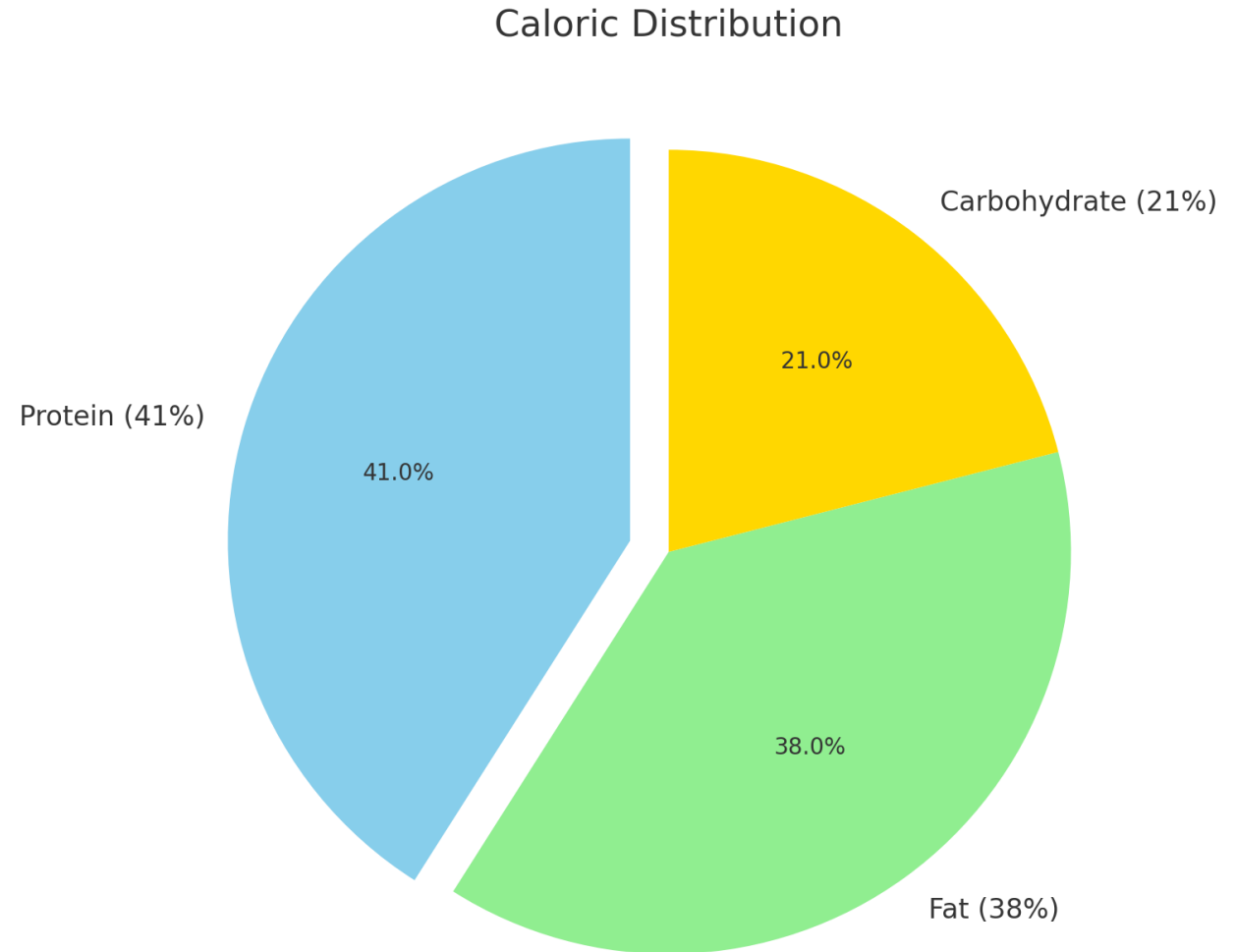
Caloric distribution of Izzy's diet

Goals for renal disease

- Low protein:
- 13-15% Protein ME

Goals for pancreatitis

- Low fat:
- <20% Fat ME



Concerns with Izzy's current diet

Higher in protein than recommended for renal disease

Higher in fat than recommended for fat intolerance (GI or pancreatitis)



Protein- Dog % Metabolizable Energy and Grams/1000 kcal



DOG	PROTEIN RANGE (% ME)	GRAM PROTEIN PER 1000 KCAL
Low Protein	<15%	<37g
Moderate Protein	20-30%	50 -75g
High Protein	40-60%	>90 g

Protein- Cat
% Metabolizable
Energy and
Grams/1000 kcal



Cat	Protein Range (% ME)	Gram Protein per 1000 kcal
Low Protein	<26%	47-75g
High Protein	40-60%	>90 g

Fat- Dogs

% Metabolizable Energy and Grams/1000 kcal



	FAT RANGE (% ME)	GRAM PER 1000 KCAL
Low Fat	<20%	<26 g
Moderate Fat	25-35%	27- 45 g
High Fat	40-60%	45 – 60 g



Common comorbidity challenge in dogs

Need for limited ingredient or hydrolyzed protein

AND

Need low fat

Solution:

18% > 20% > 22% > 24% (fat ME)



Challenge:

What if you need
more fiber



Solution:
Limited ingredient
or hydrolyzed
canine diets that
have more fiber
but still lower in fat

Dog food	Total dietary fiber g/1000 kcal	Fat grams/1000 kcal
Royal Canin Hydrolyzed Protein canned	57	41
Purina HA Chicken Flavor canned	48	33
Royal Canin Selected Protein PW Moderate Calorie dry	47	30
Royal Canin Vegetarian dry	32	28
Hill's z/d Low Fat canned	27	25
Hill's z/d Low Fat dry	26	21



Common challenge in cats:
Renal disease and
gastrointestinal disease

Need low protein for renal disease:

- <75 g/1000 kcal

Need low phosphorus for renal
disease:

- 0.8-1.3 g/1000 kcal

Novel or hydrolyzed protein

Feline Diet	Protein type	Protein g/1000 kcal	Phosphorus g/1000 kcal
Royal Canin Renal Support Hydrolyzed Protein	hydrolyzed soy	63	1.1
Royal Canin Hydrolyzed Protein	hydrolyzed soy	63	1.5
Royal Canin Ultamino	hydrolyzed poultry by-products	63	1.3
Hill's z/d canned	hydrolyzed chicken liver	88	1.6
Hill's z/d dry	hydrolyzed chicken liver	83	1.6

Solution:
Gastrointestinal diets that are lower in protein and phosphorus

Low protein cats:
<75 g/1000 kcal
Phosphorus for renal disease:
0.8-1.3 g/1000 kcal

Summary

Senior dogs and cats can benefit from an individualized diet plan

Selecting a diet starts with knowing what the nutrient profile is of the current diet

By using product guides or converting the numbers on the label to an energy basis we can compare diets to our nutrients of concern

In cases of comorbidities there are several diets that can meet the needs of our patients



Thank you!

CAMILLE TORRES DVM
DABVP CANINE FELINE
DACVIM NUTRITION

CTORRES@COLOSTATE.EDU



Transforming Lives™

Weighty Matters: Tackling Canine and Feline Obesity In Senior Pets – Insights from the Healthy Weight Clinic and Pet Health Center

KATHERINE OAKES, DVM



WEIGHTY MATTERS: TACKLING CANINE & FELINE OBESITY IN SENIOR PETS

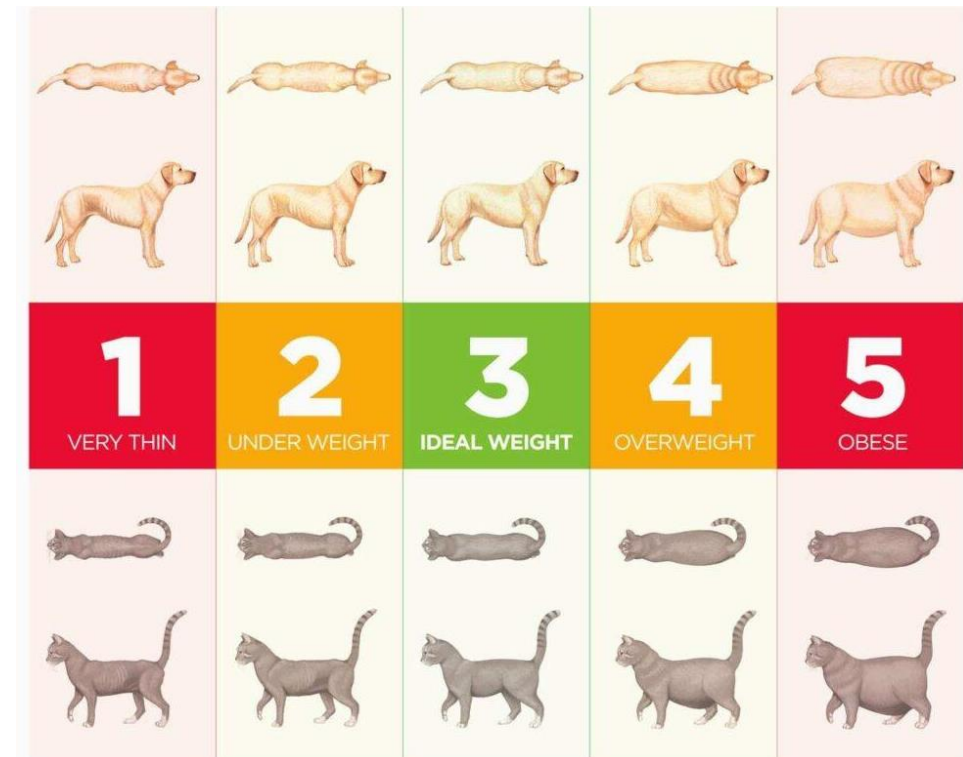


KATHERINE OAKES, DVM
DECEMBER 7TH, 2024
CLINICAL NUTRITION SYMPOSIUM



DEFINITIONS

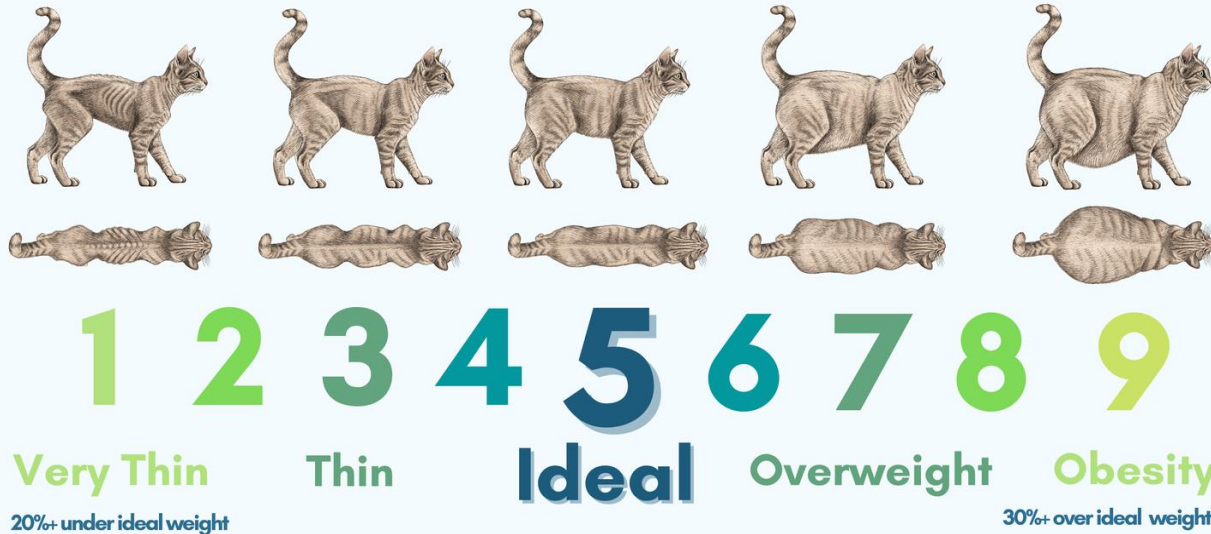
- Obesity: excess white adipose tissue (body fat) that contributes to disease
- BCS: diagnosed via physical examination
 - 1-5 or 1-9
 - Evaluation of subQ fat



Salt, et. al (2018); Laflamme, et. al (2012); Chiang, et al (2022); Hill's Pet Nutrition

BODY CONDITION SCORE

Body Condition Scoring Cats

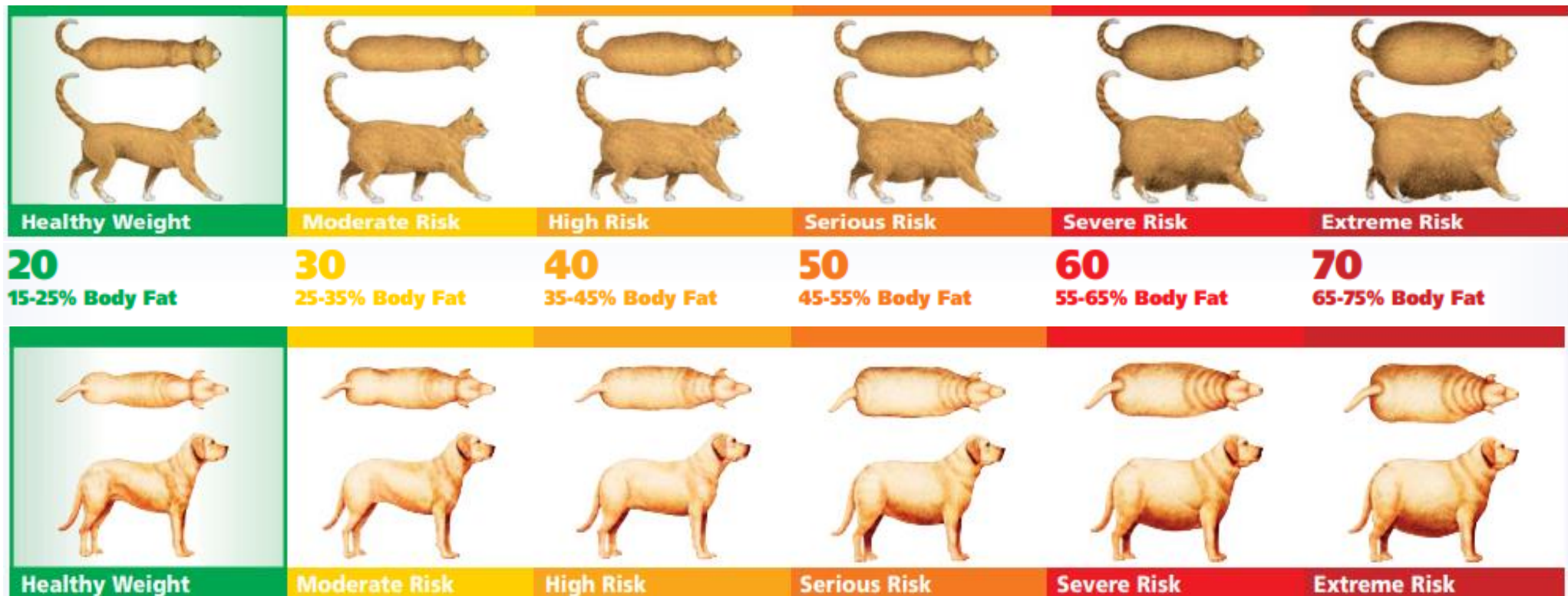


Body Condition Score (BCS) for Dogs



Association for Pet Obesity Prevention

BODY FAT INDEX (BFI) RISK CHART



DEFINITIONS



AAFP-AAHA Feline Lifestage Guidelines (2021)

DEFINITIONS

Table 2. The 14 breeds with the highest median age at death (>13.5 years) showing the Kennel Club breed group that these breeds belong to, the published values for average "Ideal" bodyweight (Alderton, 1993), number of deaths in each breed and median age at death

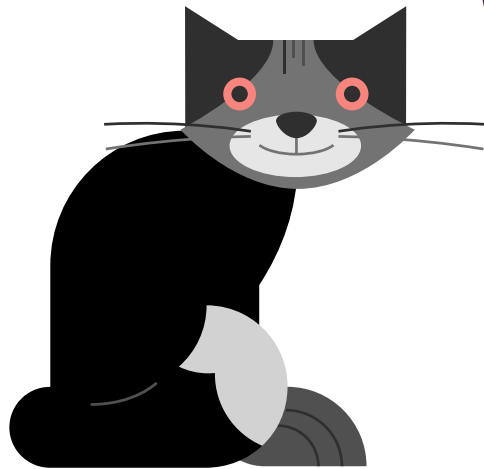
Breed group	Breed	Average bodyweight (kg)	Median age at death (year)	Number of deaths
Small	Lakeland terrier	5.5	15.46	14
Small	Irish terrier	11.5	14.83	2
Medium	Canaan dog	20.5	14.63	2
Toy	Toy poodle	5.0	14.63	20
Small	Swedish vallhund	13.0	14.42	17
Small	Tibetan spaniel	5.5	14.42	125
Small	Lhasa apso	6.5	14.33	84
Toy	Australian silky terrier	4.5	14.25	5
Small	Border terrier	6.0	14.00	177
Small	Cairn terrier	7.0	14.00	124
Small	Miniature poodle	13.0	13.92	23
Small	Basenji	10.0	13.54	46
Medium	Bearded collie	22.5	13.50	278
Toy	Italian greyhound	4.0	13.50	46

Table 3. The 11 breeds with the lowest median age at death (<7 years) showing the Kennel Club breed group that these breeds belong to, the published values for average "Ideal" bodyweight (Alderton, 1993), number of deaths in each breed and median age at death

Breed group	Breed	Average bodyweight (kg)	Median age at death (year)	Number of deaths
Large	Bullmastiff	50.0	7.46	96
Giant	Leonberger	42.0	7.08	47
Giant	Irish wolfhound	47.5	7.04	112
Giant	St Bernard	70.0	7.00	53
Small	Shiba Inu (Japanese)	11.5	7.00	3
Giant	Mastiff	83.0	6.83	80
Giant	Bloodhound	43.0	6.79	82
Giant	Great Dane	50.0	6.50	171
Medium	Bulldog	24.0	6.29	180
Medium	Shar pei	18.0	6.29	60
Large	Dogue de Bordeaux	47.5	3.83	5

Adams, et al (2010)
The Institute of Canine Biology

PREVALENCE



61%



59%

Most common form of malnutrition

Association for Pet Obesity Prevention (2022);
Blanchard, et. al (2024); Buffington (2014)

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY



**Energy
IN**



**Energy
OUT**

PATHOPHYSIOLOGY

- **Overall: EXCESS CALORIES**

- Over-feeding
- Behavioral
- Medical conditions
- Sedentary lifestyle



- **Aging pets:**

- ↓ energy requirements
- ↑ protein requirements
 - Diet-induced thermogenesis

$$\text{RER} = 70 * (\text{ideal BW}_{\text{kg}})^{0.75}$$
$$\text{MER} = \text{RER} \times \text{adjustment factor}$$

Laflamme et al, (2012); Churchill & Eirmann, (2021)

MEDICAL FACTORS

- Polyphagia
 - Cushing's disease
 - Iatrogenic - steroid administration
- Altered metabolism
 - Hypothyroidism
- Hyperlipidemia
- Osteoarthritis



Chiang et. al (2022); Blanchard et. al (2024)

OTHER FACTORS

- Age
- Breed
- Neuter status
- Sex?
- Owner perception of weight



Chiang et. al (2022); Blanchard et. al (2024);
Association for Pet Obesity Prevention

CONSEQUENCES & CO-MORBIDITIES

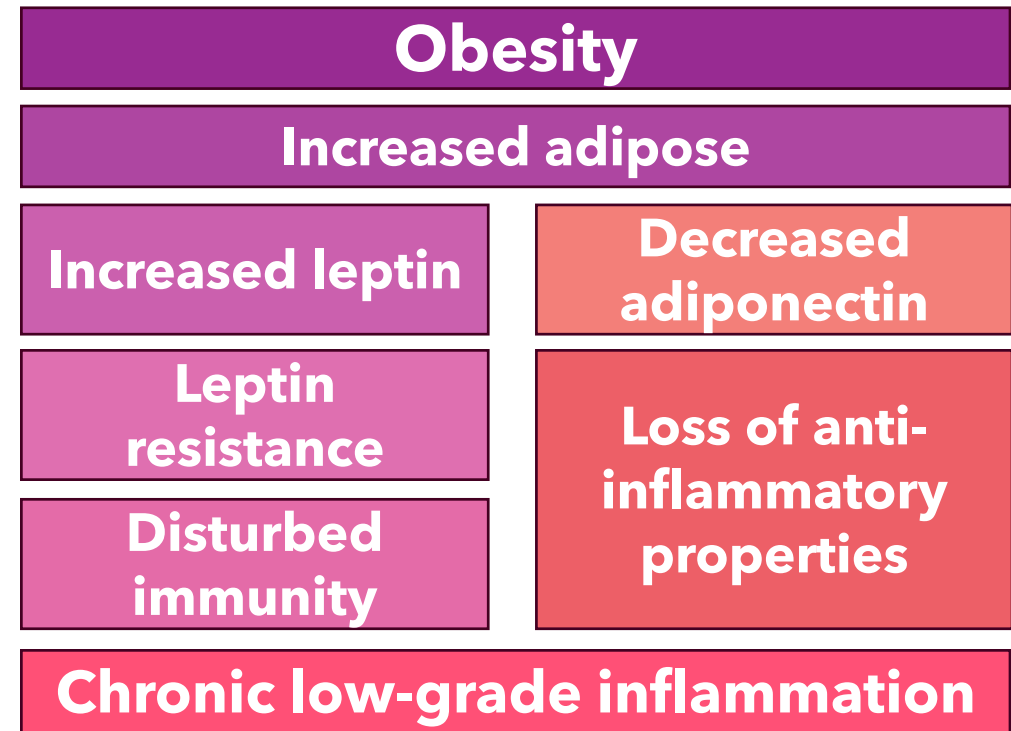
- State of chronic inflammation
- Osteoarthritis
- Neoplasia
- Diabetes mellitus & insulin resistance
- Shortened life span
- Higher anesthetic risk
- Respiratory disorders/dyspnea
- Metabolic disease
- Dermatopathy/inability to groom
- Dental disease
- Urinary tract infections

CONSEQUENCES & CO-MORBIDITIES

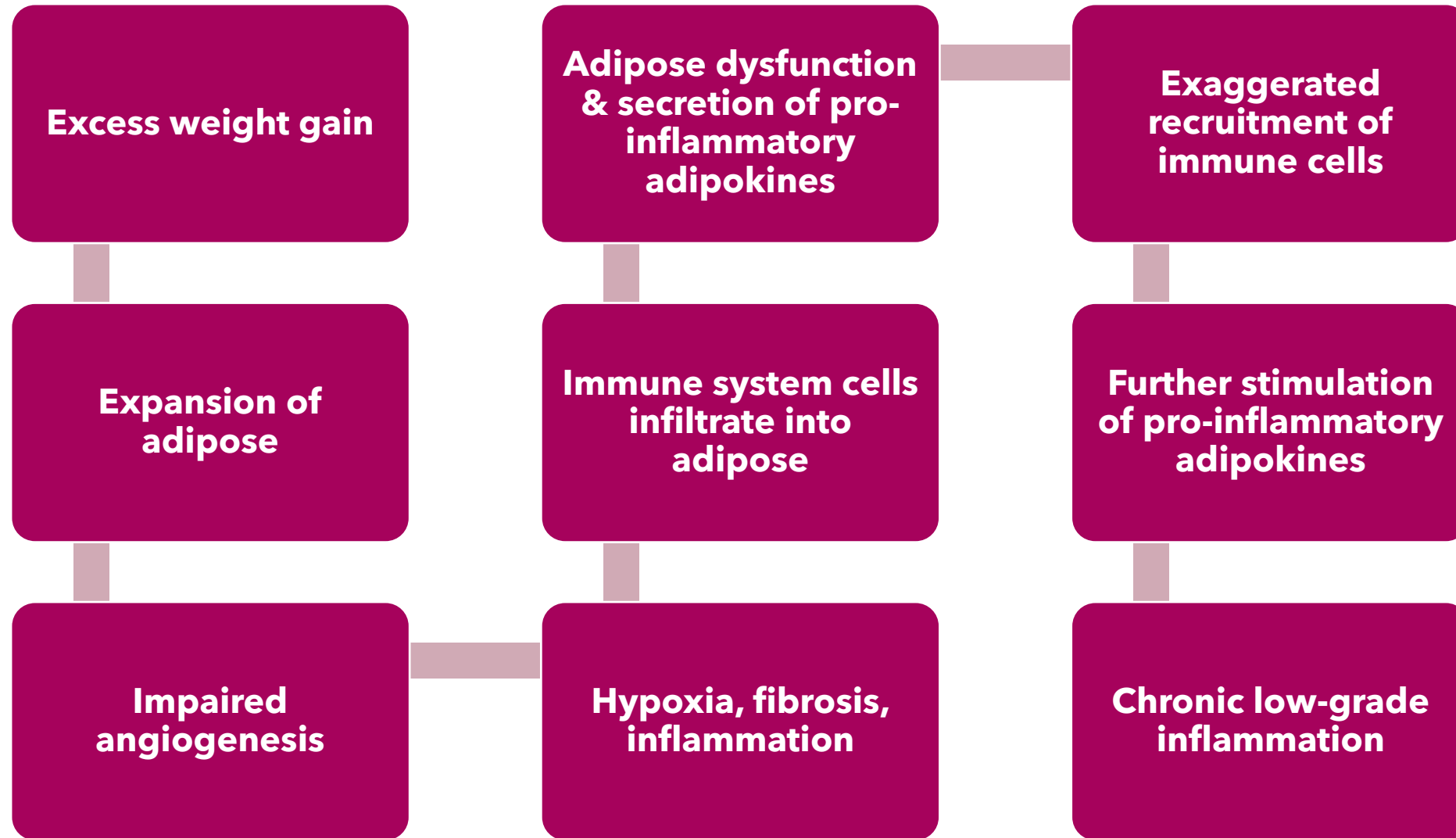
- **State of chronic inflammation**
 - **Osteoarthritis**
 - **Neoplasia**
 - **Diabetes mellitus & insulin resistance**
 - **Shortened life span**
- Higher anesthetic risk
 - Respiratory disorders/dyspnea
 - Metabolic disease
 - Dermatopathy/inability to groom
 - Dental disease
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CHRONIC INFLAMMATION

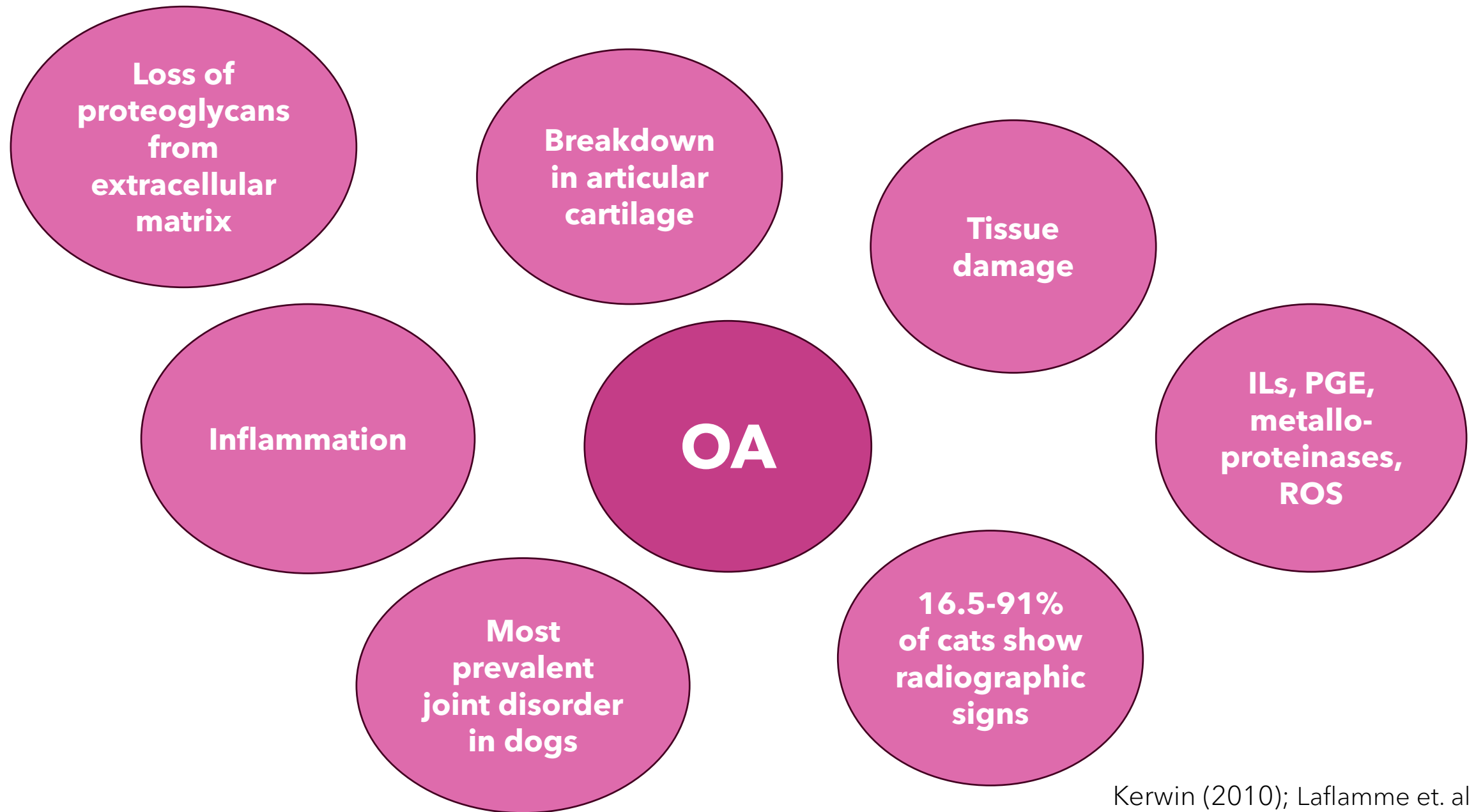
- Adipose = metabolically active endocrine organ
 - Active producer of:
 - Hormones
 - Leptin
 - Resistin
 - Inflammatory cytokines
 - TNF- α (tumor necrosis factor alpha)
 - Interleukins
 - C-reactive protein (CRP)
 - Downregulates adiponectin



Laflamme et al (2012); Marchi et al (2022)



Marchi et al (2022)



Kerwin (2010); Laflamme et. al (2012)

OSTEOARTHRITIS



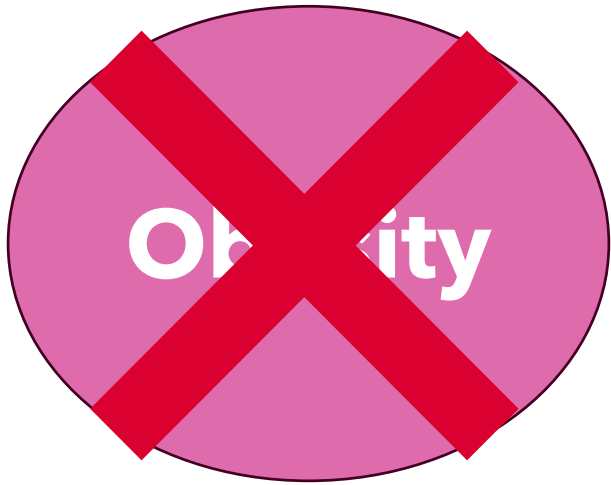
Obesity

- Added weight = stress on joints
- ↑ Oxidative stress (ROS)
- ↑ Inflammatory mediators

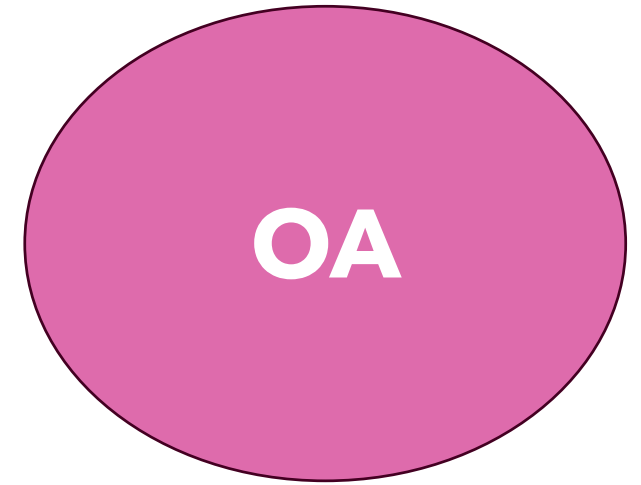


OA

OSTEOARTHRITIS



- ↑ Joint mobility
- ↓ Lameness/pain



OSTEOARTHRITIS

- Paired feeding study
 - 48 Labrador retrievers
 - Paired by sex and weight within litters
 - Control fed: free fed, then ideal weight energy requirements
 - Restricted/limit fed: 75% of control group
 - 8 year study

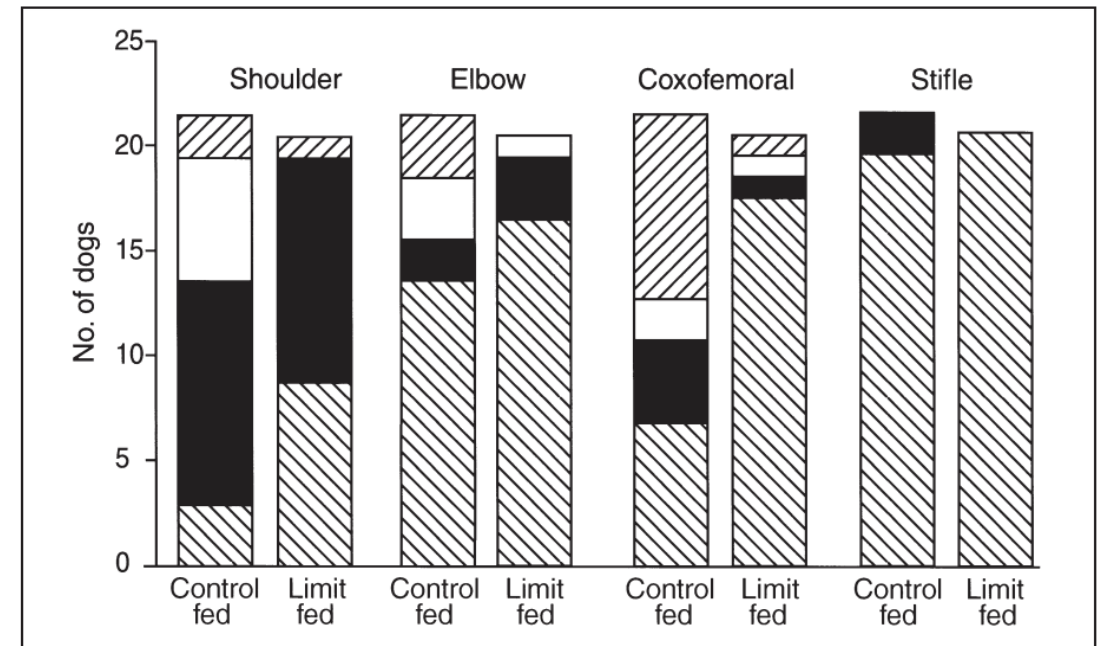


Figure 1—No. of dogs with severe (▨), moderate (□), mild (■), or no (▩) radiographic lesions of osteoarthritis in various joints.

Kealy et al (2000)

OSTEOARTHRITIS

Radiographic OA prevalence	
Multiple joints	Control-fed > restricted-fed
Hip joint	Control-fed: 15/22 Restricted-fed: 3/21
Shoulder joint	Control-fed: 19/22 Restricted-fed: 12/21
Elbow joint	Increased severity in control-fed

Kealy et al (2000)

OSTEOARTHRITIS

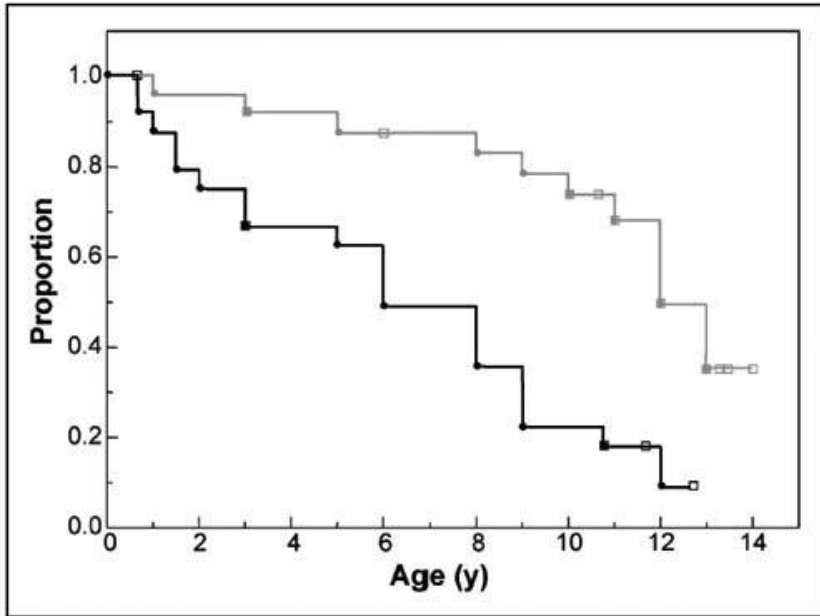


Figure 1—Results of Kaplan-Meier analysis for proportion of Labrador Retrievers (gray line = restricted-fed dogs [n = 24]; black line = control-fed dogs [24]) without radiographic evidence of hip joint osteoarthritis.

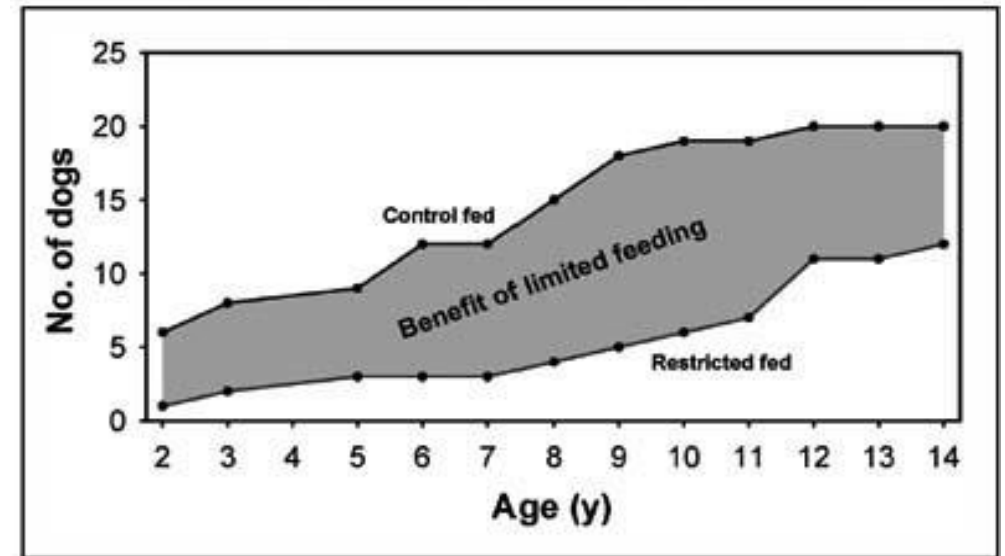
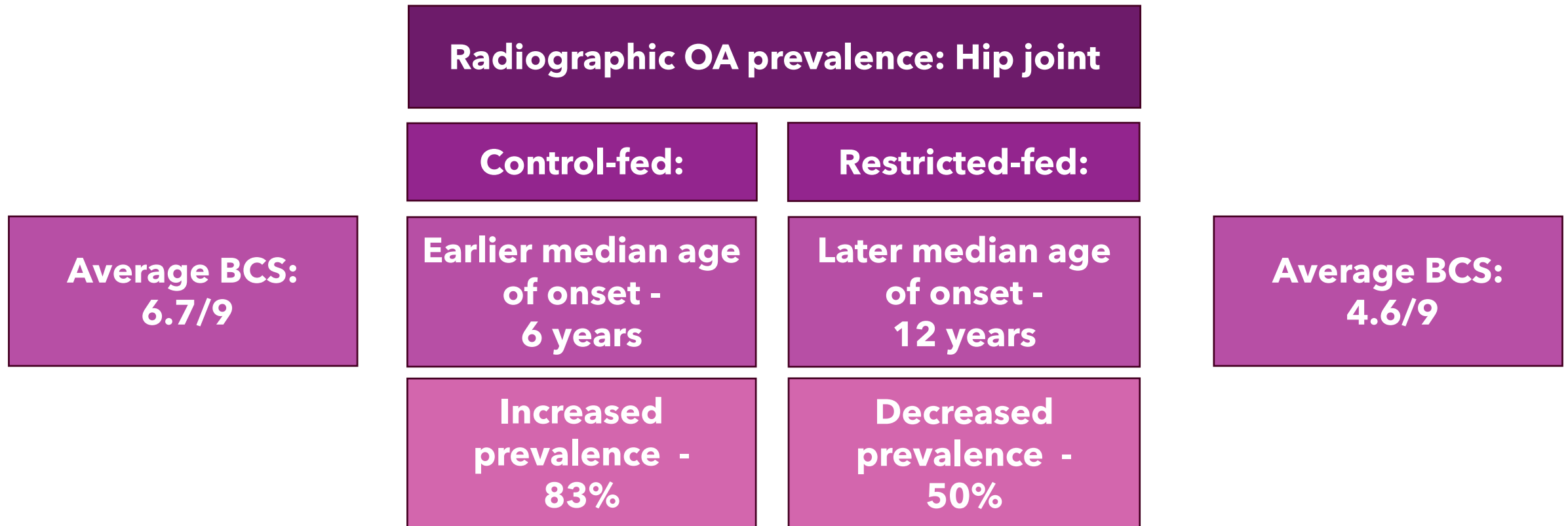


Figure 2—Cumulative prevalence of hip joint osteoarthritis in the same dogs as in Figure 1.

OSTEOARTHRITIS



Smith et al (2006)

OSTEOARTHRITIS

- Prospective study - 14 client-owned dogs
 - Clinical & radiographic OA
 - 20%+ above ideal body weight
 - Therapeutic weight-loss diet - 16 weeks
 - Six follow-up visits assessed:
 - Body weight
 - Pelvic circumference
 - Severity of lameness

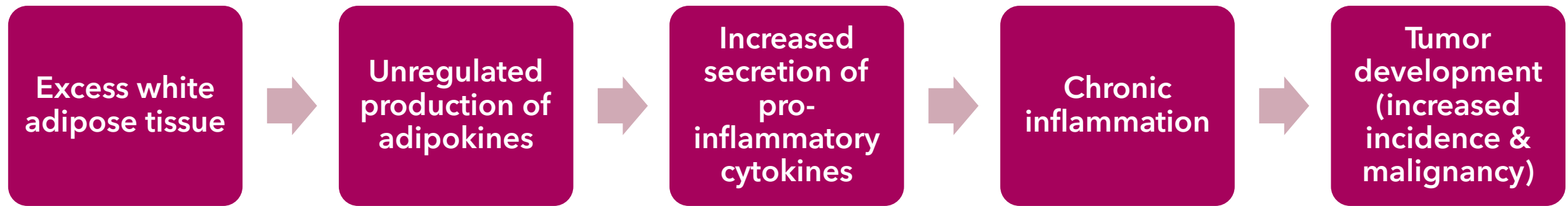
8.6% initial BW lost
6.92% pelvic circumference lost

**6.10%+ BW loss caused
significant decrease in lameness**

**8.85%+ BW loss caused ground
reaction forces measured in
worst affected limb to increase**

**BW reduction causes a decrease
in clinical signs of lameness**

NEOPLASIA



Hormonal carcinogenesis

In humans

**Adipose tissue
dysfunction**

High estrogen

**Post-
menopausal
breast cancer**

**Inflammatory
state**

**Estrogen
signaling
dysfunction**

**Mutagenesis,
DNA damage,
cell
proliferation,
angiogenesis**

In animals

**Prolactin &
steroid
hormones**

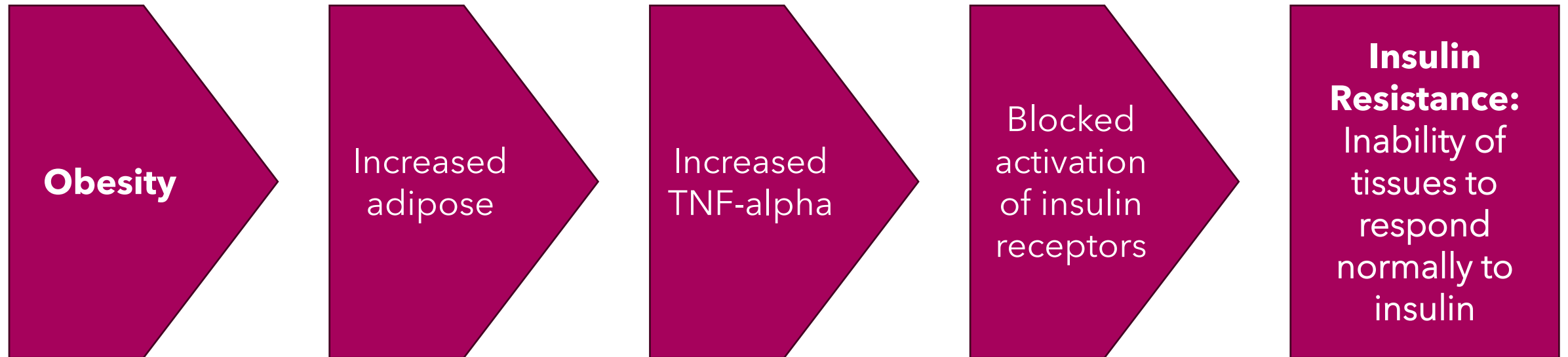
**Canine
mammary
cancer**

**Adipose
secretion of
aromatase**

**Conversion of
androgen
hormones into
estrogen**

Lund et al (2005); Marchi et al (2022)

INSULIN RESISTANCE



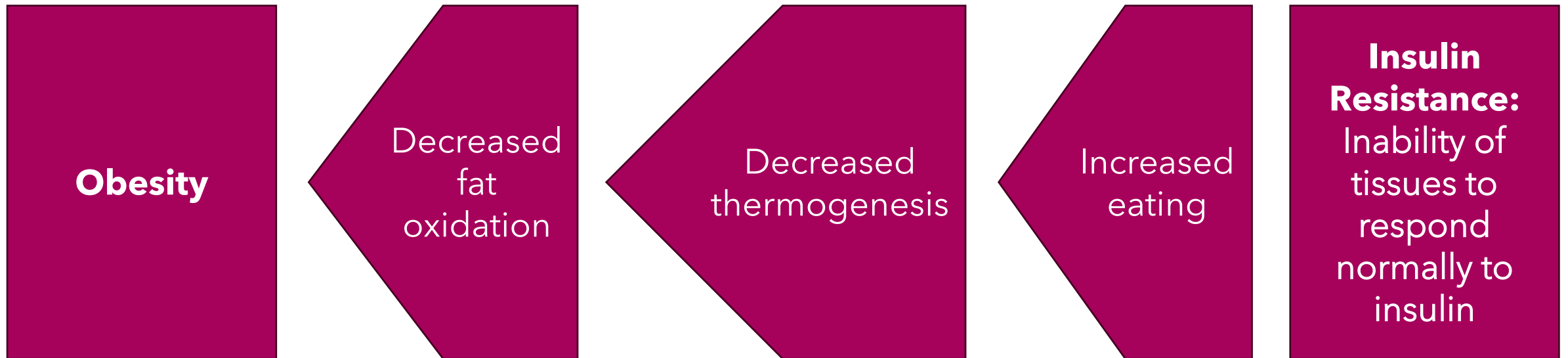
INSULIN RESISTANCE



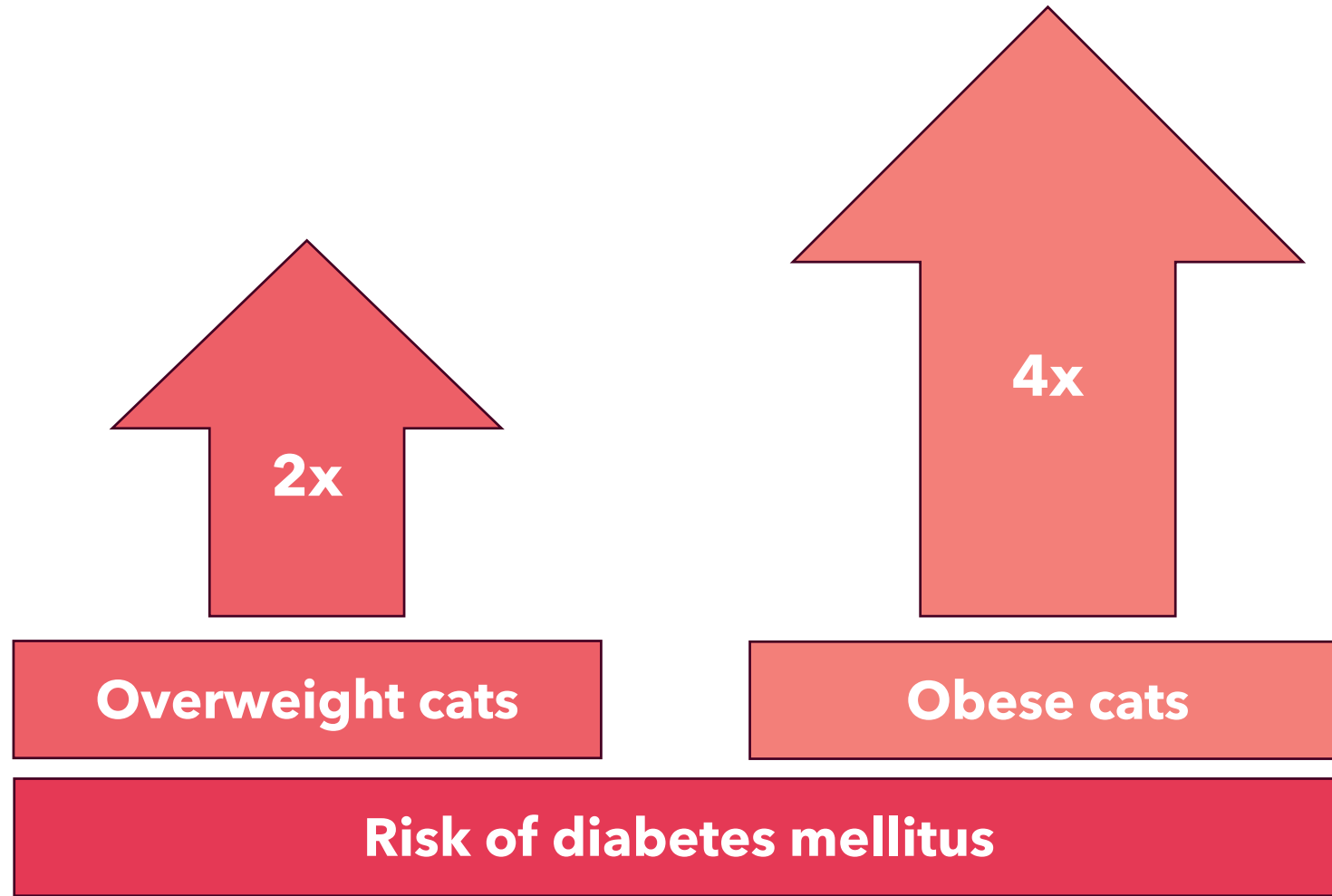
INSULIN RESISTANCE



INSULIN RESISTANCE



A QUICK NOTE ON DIABETES



Lund et al (2005);
Laflamme et al (2012)

SHORTENED LIFE SPAN

- Overweight dogs:
 - ↑ Risk of instantaneous death
 - ↓ Lifespan in all breeds and ages
- 13 years**
- 11.2 years**
- Indirect associations with lifespan
 - Predisposition or exacerbation of disease
 - Lean dogs have delayed onset for requiring long-term treatment of chronic diseases, including OA
 - Decreased quality of life



Kealy et al (2002); Salt et al (2018)

SHORTENED LIFE SPAN

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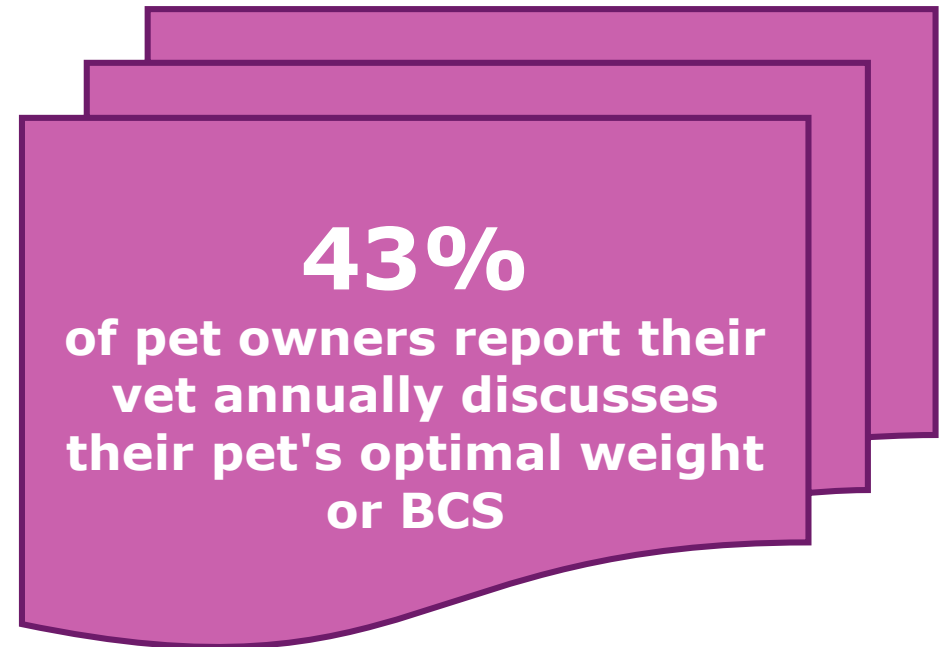
#1 reason

**why dog & cat owners would
participate in a weight
management program for their pet**

Kealy et al (2002); Salt et al (2018);
Davies et al (2024); Sutherland et al (2024)

HOW CAN WE HELP?

- Obese/overweight **IS** a diagnosis!
 - Not consistently recorded
 - Discuss ideal weight
- Complete physical exam & records
 - Body weight **and** body condition score
 - Muscle condition score
 - Diet history
- Client education
- Feel comfortable making a weight loss plan



Chiang et al (2022); Association for Pet
Obesity Prevention 2023 Survey Data

DEVELOPING A WEIGHT LOSS PLAN

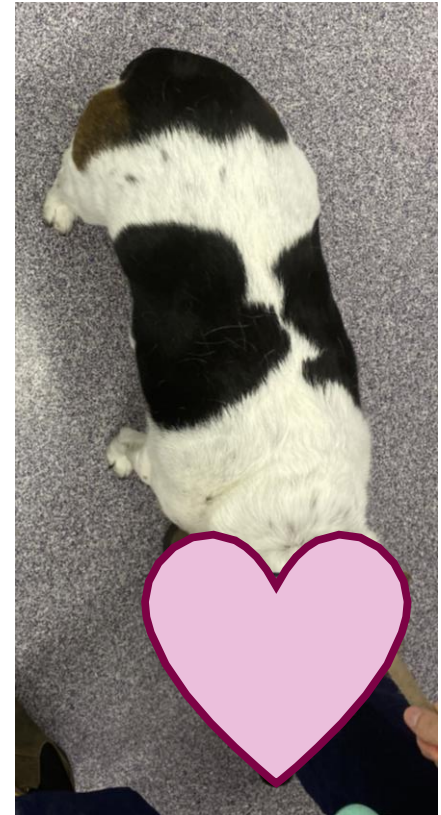
- Negative energy balance
 - Therapeutic weight loss food
 - Reduction in calories
 - ↑ Protein
 - ↑ Fiber
 - ↑ Exercise
- Treats: 10% of total diet
- Consistent monitoring
- Client education
- **Aging pets:**
 - Consider comorbidities
 - Taste preferences/aversions
 - Remember higher protein requirements
 - Omega-3's & antioxidants

**Cats: 0.5-1% BW
lost per week**

**Dogs: 1-2% BW
lost per week**

" BETTY "

- 12 y/o FS Beagle mix
- Starting weight: 33 lbs
- Starting BCS: 8/9
- Enrolled May 2023





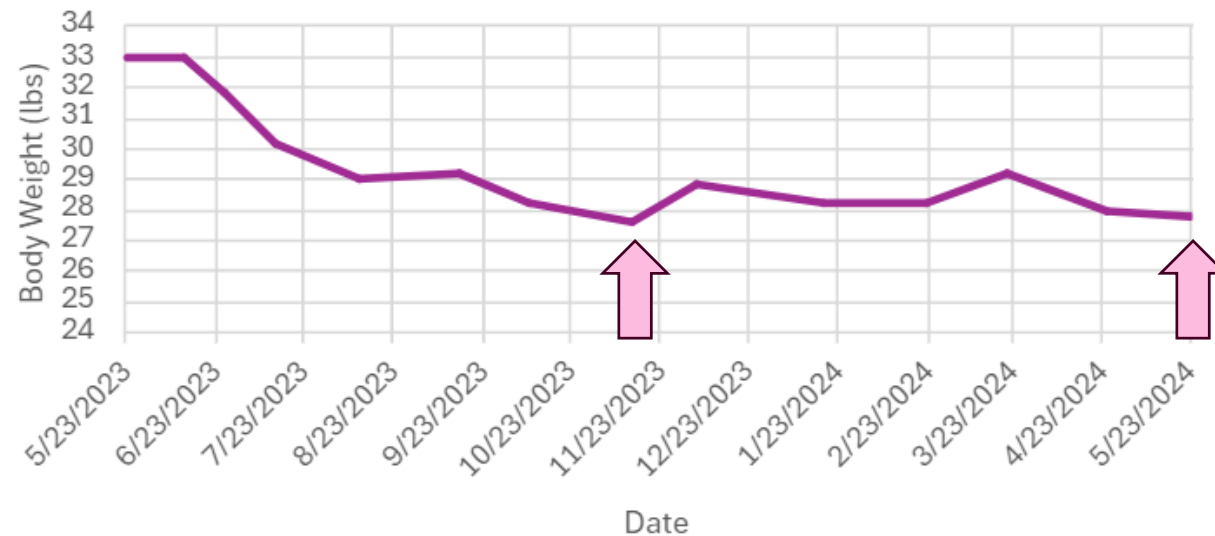
Current Weight	Ideal Body Weight [lbs]					
	Body Fat % 20	Body Fat % 30	Body Fat % 40	Body Fat % 50	Body Fat % 60	Body Fat % 70
10	10	8.8	7.5	6.3	5.0	3.8
11	11	9.6	8.3	6.9	5.5	4.1
12	12	10.5	9.0	7.5	6.0	4.5
13	13	11.4	9.8	8.1	6.5	4.9
14	14	12.3	10.5	8.8	7.0	5.3
15	15	13.1	11.3	9.4	7.5	5.6
20	20	17.5	15.0	12.5	10.0	7.5
25	25	21.9	18.8	15.6	12.5	9.4
30	30	26.3	22.5	18.8	15.0	11.3
35	35	30.6	26.3	21.9	17.5	13.1
40	40	35.0	30.0	25.0	20.0	15.0
45	45	39.4	33.8	28.1	22.5	16.9
50	50	43.8	37.5	31.3	25.0	18.8
55	55	48.1	41.3	34.4	27.5	20.6
60	60	52.5	45.0	37.5	30.0	22.5
65	65	56.9	48.8	40.6	32.5	24.4
70	70	61.3	52.5	43.8	35.0	26.3
75	75	65.6	56.3	46.9	37.5	28.1
80	80	70.0	60.0	50.0	40.0	30.0
85	85	74.4	63.8	53.1	42.5	31.9
90	90	78.8	67.5	56.3	45.0	33.8
95	95	83.1	71.3	59.4	47.5	35.6
100	100	87.5	75.0	62.5	50.0	37.5
105	105	91.9	78.8	65.6	52.5	39.4
110	110	96.3	82.5	68.8	55.0	41.3
115	115	100.6	86.3	71.9	57.5	43.1
120	120	105.0	90.0	75.0	60.0	45.0
130	130	113.8	97.5	81.3	65.0	48.8
140	140	122.5	105.0	87.5	70.0	52.5
150	150	131.3	112.5	93.8	75.0	56.3
160	160	140.0	120.0	100.0	80.0	60.0

"BETTY"

- 1 year later... (May 2024)
- Ending weight: 27.8 lbs
- Ending BCS: 5/9



Betty's Weight Loss



ONE LAST THING...

This information is for educational purposes only.

Clinical Nutrition Internship is funded by Hill's Pet Nutrition.

Thank you to Dr. Nelson & Dr. Getty! 😊



QUESTIONS?





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Scan the QR code to
provide feedback on
today's continuing
education



**Thank You
for Joining Us**



Transforming Lives™

Small Animal Clinical Nutrition Symposium

AGING CATS & DOGS





TECHNICAL DIFFICULTIES
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