

# Something to Chew on

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HEALTHIER FOOD FOR HEALTHIER PETS

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## Feeding a Raw Diet to a pet with Health Conditions

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Some people may scare you away from a raw diet if your pet has a health condition. But I know if I am am sick, I wouldn't eat a 100% processed diet.

And I don't think your pet should either.

If I wanted to recover from or manage a health condition, I'd eat squeaky clean. I'd feed my body with real, unprocessed food full of vitamins, minerals, enzymes, antioxidants, and phytonutrients. And I'd choose ingredients that were known to heal or support my specific condition.

I'm not going to tell you what to do. But if it were me, I'd take the same common-sense approach human beings follow

and apply it to my pet for any health conditions (or ailments) they may be experiencing.

You would be hard pressed to find a reputable doctor recommending a diet of pro-

cessed food for good health and recovery. Oddly enough, you may very well encounter a vet that would recommend a highly overprocessed kibble.

### RAW DIETS FOR PETS, ARE THEY BETTER?

The thought of feeding raw food tends to divide us into two camps. Either it strikes you as a proper fit with how evolution crafted animals or it conjures up images of marauding, uncouth tribes.

A close consideration of the practice reveals many facts neglected by cursory judgement. And regardless of your point of view, raw is the fastest growing sector of the pet food market. If you were to feed a raw diet to your pet, the first change observed would be improved stools. This is due to its superior digestibility. Another delightful part of feeding raw is pets like it, palatability is great.

### The Purdue Study

In 2005, Purdue University conducted a study using fresh vegetables in canine diets. The goal was to see how they affected incidences of bladder cancer in dogs.

Using Scottish terriers, one group received only dry kibble. The other group received dry kibble plus different vegetables 3 times per week.

### THE RESULTS WERE SHOCKING

Dogs that ate green leafy vegetables had reduced the risk of developing bladder cancer by 90%. And dogs that consumed yellow or orange colored veggies reduced their risk by 70%.