***White Paper on Pet Food What consumers need to know***

**Basics?:**  Purina One, Purina Pro Plan, Hills Science Diet foods, Hills Prescriptions diets and Royal Canin products are the best foundation diets. Have dogs eat 25% of the total volume as frozen veggies. (Some cats might go along too). Good foods create healthy, Microbiota & Microbiome, keep reading.

**Evolutionary Perspective**? The Darwinian key to health is a diet that keeps the intestinal microbiota and microbiome healthy. Achieve this goal with excellent foodstuffs, the ultimate in prebiotics. The following issues illustrate the failed human effort to manufacture excellent pet foodstuffs.

**Fraud?.** There is “no-truth-in-labeling” on animal foods as here is with the human foodstuffs. Blue Buffalo in open court admits that it lies about their products and they claim that “all pet food companies lie” and provide false information to consumers. Hills does not lie.

**What is In the BAG?** The only way to know what is in a food will be the digestibility studies which are not available to you, the consumer. The pet food industry is known to fight “truth-in-labeling” when these issues have come before congress.

**Critics?** The biggest critics of Purina and Hills are the retail outlets that cannot get these products and the “other manufactures“completing with Purina & Hills. They are outgunned academically, manufacturing and practically.

**Weight Control?:** Excessive weight is the number one Enemy of health in pets. Maintain a 5/9 Body Score to increase the life expectancy by 20%

**Deaths**? Dead pets are being found because of the problems with the assorted foods, treats and chew toys. Again pointing out the inability of humans to mimic a Darwinian Diet. *Dr Riegger has tested and uses the Science Diet Treats for his pets*.

**Human foods?** Table Food is ok but there are two rules:1) Feed No more than 25% of the total volume consumed and 2) Keep the pets weight controlled

**Analysis is not guaranteed?** Mislabeling, recalls, plagiarism and mistakes are widespread and can be documented nicely with the massive inventory of recalls associated with molds, toxins and inappropriate items and include narcotics found in the foods.

**Silly Item ?** The “crude protein, crude fiber and crude fat” only has meaning in feeding of the 4 stomached cattle group not our monogastric pets

**Specialty Foods exist**. Royal Canine’s Ultamino might be a good food for allergy pets. But in general “Special foods” are really not special. Purina Pro Sensitive Skin & Sensitive Stomach is a really nice day to day food as is the Hills Science Diet i/d. *Dr Riegger feds all his dogs a basic diet of i/d.*

**The Danger in MYTHS**

**Gluten Free?** Dogs do not get celiac disease and do not need gluten free products. And even those products labeled as gluten likely have gluten.

**Grain Free**? Grains and carbohydrates are a basic foundation food needed for energy and thus the grain free foods misrepresent the role of grains. Pets need these items. Grain free foods likely have grains. ”Grain free” foods tend to be high in fats and these fats contribute to unacceptable weight gain and associated medical conditions

**Raw Myth?**. Predators consume fresh mice, lizards, rabbits and fish: Not human created fractional meat based products. Commercial Raw foods contain bacteria, including Salmonella, Corynebacteria, and E coli, and every tested raw & homemade diet has inappropriate levels of calcium and phosphorus. Every patient on raw that we have assessed has osteoporosis issues. These issues are found even in the “frozen” raw foods. Dogs fed raw are forbidden from human hospitals because these pets spread pathogens to patients and children. If the food smells bad: it is rotten. Dogs on raw diets shall receive special handling, which includes:

* Isolation ward for hygiene
* PPE-gloves, gowns
* No orthopedic surgery if possible
* Special assorted antibiotics for Salmonella et al
* Keep away from children

**No preservative.** This claim is an open admission that pathogens. rancid and rotten food will be in those packages.

**Probiotics Myths.** Myths exist and controversy surrounds these products. Prebiotics IS the answer…Prebiotics are good quality foods. When needed The REAL probiotic is with a Microbiotia Transplant: placing health feces into the body, usually with an endoscope or capsule. Critical studies are suggesting that probiotics may actually harm the healthy microbiota.