

Update to the FDA Investigation of Canine Nutritional Dilated Cardiomyopathy



1100

cases of dogs diagnosed with DCM related heart disease cases of dogs affected by DCM have been reported to the FDA



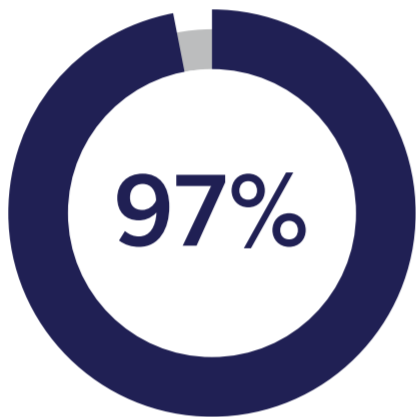
107

cases of DCM affected dogs were followed over time

At Diagnosis



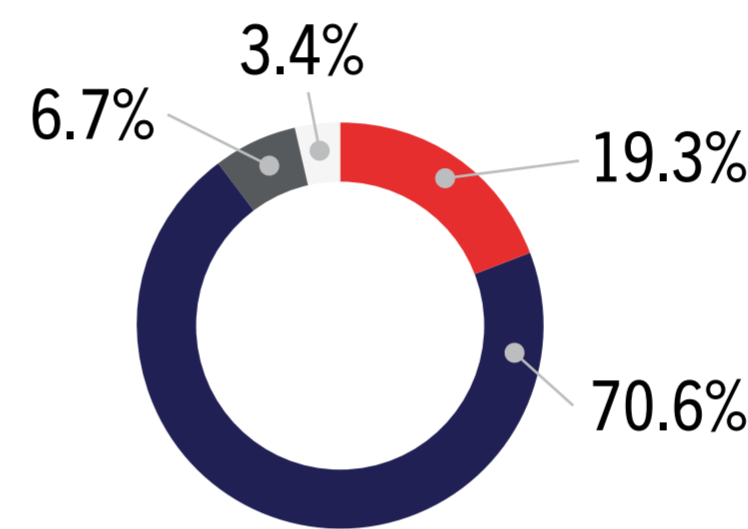
only ate diets that were Grain Free (contained no corn, wheat, soy, or rice)



ate diets that contained Peas &/or Lentils among top ingredients

Stages of Recovery

6 months – 2 years after treatment began

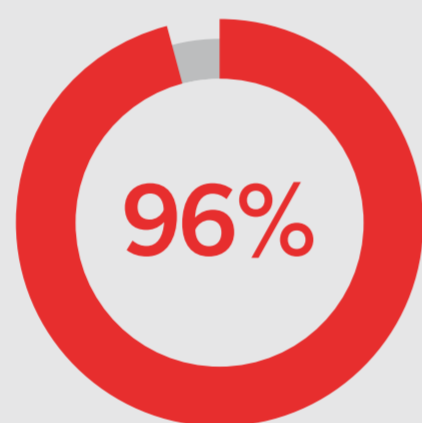


● Full	19.3%
● Partial	70.6%
● None	6.7%
○ Unknown	3.4%

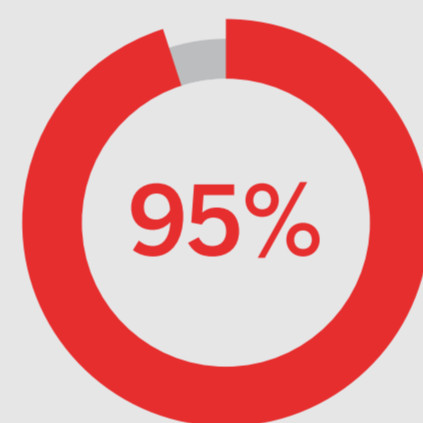
Treatment of Those That Fully Recovered



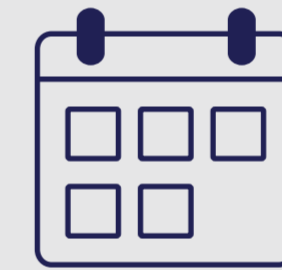
received a diet change



switched to diets containing grains



were treated with taurine and pimobendan



most recovered 7-13 months after treatment began

CVCA Patients* May 2017 - November 2020



470

cases of dogs diagnosed with DCM related heart disease



51

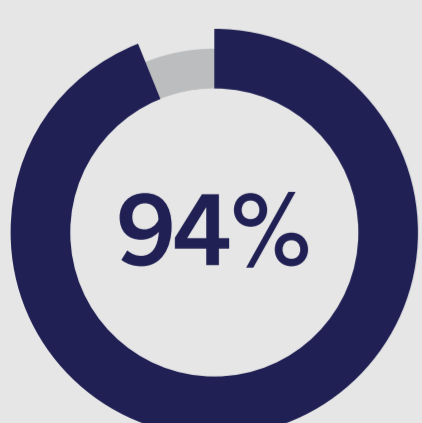
of these cases of DCM were presumed to have nutritional heart muscle disease and were analyzed



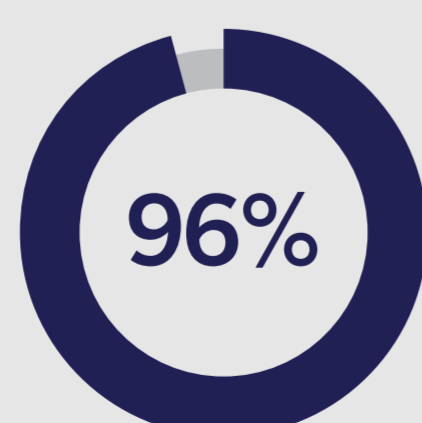
10

of these cases were severe and experiencing Congestive Heart Failure

Treatment & Recovery



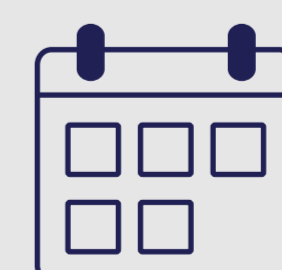
either fully or partially recovered



were treated with taurine supplement



received a diet change



improvement seen 3-19 months after treatment began

SOURCES: Information Current as of January, 2021.

• FDA Update on Dilated Cardiomyopathy: Fully and Partially Recovered Cases, www.ksvdl.org/resources/documents/dcm-forum/FDA_KSU-Science-Forumslides_09-29-2020.pdf
 • Cummings Veterinary Medical Center Department of Veterinary Nutrition, vetnutrition.tufts.edu/petfoodology
 • World Small Animal Veterinary Association Global Nutrition Guidelines, www.wsava.org/Guidelines/Global-Nutrition-Guidelines

*Previously Petcardia

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Until More is Understood About the Causes of Nutritional DCM



Educate yourself! Consult with a Veterinary Nutritionist, talk to a veterinarian, or consult peer-reviewed resources of pet nutrition.



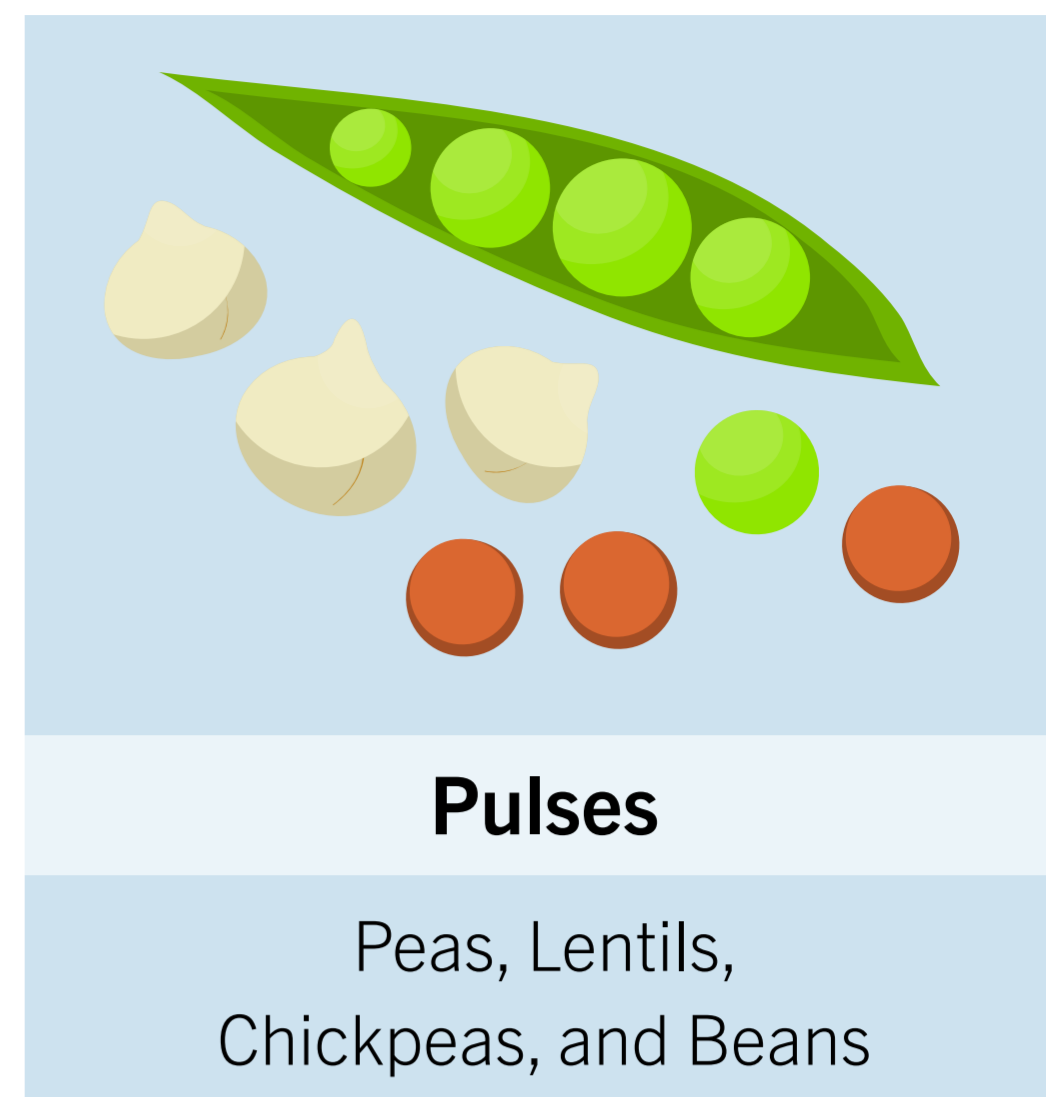
Check the ingredient list! Overall, no more than 1 potato, sweet potato, or pulse; and NOT in the first five ingredients.



Follow WSAVA Guidelines: Feed food from producers that 1) employ a veterinary nutritionist, 2) control their own production lines, & 3) conduct AAFCO food trials.



Still unsure? Most foods produced by Eukanuba, Hills Science Diet, Iams, Purina, and Royal Canin meet the WSAVA guidelines.



Know the Signs of DCM

- Decreased energy
- Cough
- Difficulty breathing
- Episodes of collapse
- Exercise intolerance

DCM can cause sudden death, contact your Veterinarian!



DCM can develop without displaying symptoms for years



A Veterinary Cardiologist can diagnose DCM with an echocardiogram

Nutritional DCM may be reversible if identified!



Resources

1

Veterinary Nutritionists

Directory of ACVN Diplomates - www.acvn.org/directory

Resources and advice from Tufts University - www.petfoodology.org

2

Pet Nutrition Toolkits

WSAVA Global Guidelines - www.wsava.org/Guidelines/Global-Nutrition-Guidelines

Home Cooked Diets - www.balanceit.com

PNA Manufacturer Report - <https://petnutritionalliance.org/chart/index.php/manufacturer-report>

3

Online Community

Taurine DCM - www.taruinedcm.org



CVCA is the leading choice for veterinary cardiology

CVCA is the nation's largest veterinary cardiology practice