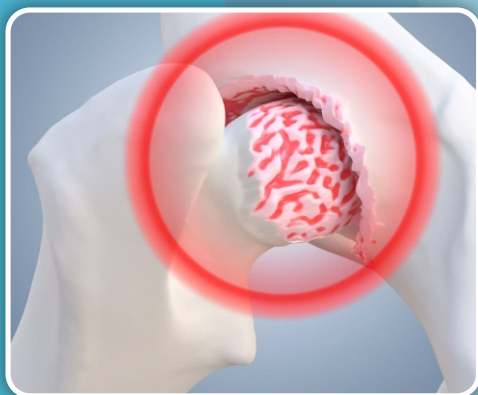


## NEW GUIDE DESIGNED TO ASSIST VETERINARY PRACTICES WITH CANINE OA PROTOCOLS

American Regent Animal Health has introduced a new treatment protocol guide to assist veterinary practices in diagnosing and managing canine osteoarthritis (OA). Developed in collaboration with Dr. Denis Marcellin-Little of the University of California, Davis, the guide emphasizes a structured, step-by-step framework to ensure consistency in OA management. It also offers resources for client education, aiming to enhance understanding and adherence to treatment plans.

In related findings, a survey by the American Animal Hospital Association (AAHA) revealed that veterinarians primarily use physical examinations, patient histories, and radiographs for OA diagnosis, with less frequent use of client questionnaires. For OA management, common approaches include weight optimization, joint supplements, and owner-guided exercise. Dr. Marcellin-Little highlighted the importance of early disease management and cautioned against overreliance on joint supplements, suggesting they should complement other treatments rather than serve as the primary intervention.

This new guide aims to standardize OA treatment protocols, promoting early detection and comprehensive management strategies in veterinary practices.



## GLOBAL STUDY OF THE HUMAN- ANIMAL BOND IS LAUNCHED

The Waltham Petcare Science Institute has launched the Pets and Wellbeing Study (PAWS), a comprehensive five-year research initiative. This program aims to explore the mutual benefits of the human-animal bond, focusing on how interactions with cats and dogs influence human mental health and well-being, particularly concerning stress, anxiety, and loneliness. In its initial phase, PAWS will engage over 35,000 participants across more than 20 countries, with plans to expand further. The study seeks to provide scientific insights into how pets enhance human lives and how these relationships improve the quality of life for companion animals.

## AFFORDABLE EARLY DETECTION TEST FOR CANINE LYMPHOMA TO HIT THE MARKET

IDEXX Laboratories shared earlier this month the launch of IDEXX Cancer Dx, a diagnostic panel with early detection of lymphoma in canine patients. The new panel is an accessible blood test that can be added to the panels of sick pets and can be integrated into annual wellness screenings. IDEXX Cancer panel aims at providing professionals with low cost and actionable results within 2 to 3 days.

Cancer is currently the leading cause of death in canine patients with 1 in 4 dogs expected to be diagnosed with cancer in their lifetime, with lymphoma being one of the most common cancers in dogs. If detected early, treatments for canine lymphoma can help expand the lifespan of dogs, and improve their quality of life.

The testing panel with canine lymphoma will be available in the United States and Canada in late March 2025.



## RESEARCH SHOWS BIFIDOBACTERIUM LONGUM AND SOLUBLE FIBRES MAY AID FELINE GASTROINTESTINAL HEALTH

A recent study found that including heat-treated *Bifidobacterium longum* combined with soluble fibres in adult cats' diets improved their intestinal health. The study, led by ADM—a human, pet, and animal nutrition company—in collaboration with China Agricultural University, aimed to investigate the effect these supplements have on the digestive health of felines before and after undergoing an abrupt dietary change.<sup>1,2</sup>

Suddenly changing a cat's diet can disrupt their gastrointestinal balance, which can lead to inflammation. When transitioning to a high-protein diet, cats can be even more impacted. Although gradually transitioning to the new food over the course of 7 days has been shown to reduce gastrointestinal upset, diet change-related diarrhea is still common in cats, according to the authors of the study.<sup>1</sup>

Postbiotic *Bifidobacterium longum* helps improve the gut microbiota balance and strengthen the intestinal barrier, leading to improved gastrointestinal health during dietary changes, according to ADM. Additionally, soluble fibres raise the levels of beneficial bacteria while containing a low glycemic index, reduced body fat, and improved adaptation to high-protein diets.<sup>2</sup>

For the 28-day study, which was published in *Animals*, researchers looked at 24 British shorthair adult cats. The felines were divided into 2 groups, with the control group receiving a lower protein concentration (33%) diet for days 1 to 14. The treatment group, meanwhile, received the same diet as the control group, but were supplemented with 0.16% functional additives of *Bifidobacterium longum* combined with a soluble dietary fiber. From days 15 to 28, both groups switched to a higher-protein diet (40%). The treatment group continued receiving the same supplement.

The cats that received the supplement showed significant improvements in serum lipopolysaccharide, an indicator of intestinal permeability, both before and after the diet change.<sup>1,2</sup> The use of heat-treated *Bifidobacterium longum* combined with soluble fibres also lowered the felines' fecal pH and increased their fecal levels of secretory immunoglobulin A (sIgA).

"...the functional additive regulates the fecal microbiota and its function, promoting intestinal homeostasis and colonization with beneficial bacteria such as *Blautia*," wrote the study's

### Reference:

1. Wang F, Gao S, Peng Q, Tan L, Chen S, Xia Z. Effects of heat-treated *Bifidobacterium Longum* CECT-7347 combined with fibersol-2 on the intestinal health of cats submitted to an abrupt dietary change: A randomized controlled study. *Animals*. 2024;14(15):2179. doi:10.3390/ani14152179

2. ADM-led study focuses on cat digestive health. *Feed Additive International Magazine for Animal Feed & Additives Industry*. January 31, 2025. Accessed February 19, 2025.

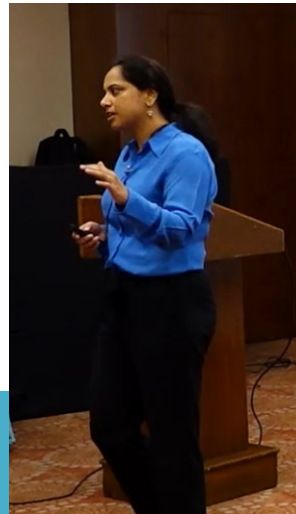
<https://www.feedandadditive.com/adm-led-study-focuses-on-cat-digestive-health/>

## Vivaldis Oncology Seminar - Hyderabad

Vivaldis continued its efforts in advancing the boundaries of clinical knowledge on Sunday at Hyderabad.

An Oncology Seminar was organised by Vivaldis and conducted by Dr. Noopur Desai, a global expert in the field of Veterinary Oncology. Over 90 practicing vets from the Hyderabad area attended the event.

The topics covered were diagnosis, treatments and post treatment of Cancer in pets.



VIVALDIS CORNER

NEW PRODUCTS

## Introducing **Oclapet**

Oclacitinib 3.6mg/ 5.4mg/ 16mg tablets



Your First choice in management of Atopic Dermatitis.

## A Novel JAK Inhibitor

Selectively inhibits the JAK1 & JAK3 receptor and brings itching under control within 24 hours.