

STOP CRUEL ALLIANCE

JOIN UKRMB • www.ukrmb.co.uk

British Veterinary Association

BVA Policy Brief

Raw Meaty Bones Lobby

NO DEBATE
only censorship
and suppression

An ongoing debate within the veterinary profession. A small lobby group proposes that pet dogs and cats should be fed a 'natural diet' of raw meat and bones rather than commercially prepared diets. The group is active in their criticism of the commercial manufacturers of pet foods. This criticism has recently been extended to the university veterinary schools, which have been accused of teaching undergraduate veterinary nutrition in a biased fashion in return for financial support for research and clinical work within the schools.

TRUE
BETRAYAL
OF TRUST!

TRUE
JUNK PET
FOOD
MAIMS &
KILLS

FACTOIDS AND FALSEHOODS

Key facts:

- Dogs are omnivorous animals whilst cats are obligate carnivores. Both species require a balance of essential dietary nutrients (e.g. vitamins, minerals and essential fatty acids) for optimal health and longevity. *AS DETERMINED BY NATURE NOT COMMERCE*
- Commercially prepared pet foods have been scientifically formulated to contain the optimum balance of essential dietary nutrients for each species. Some commercial pet foods have been designed to satisfy the requirements of specific breeds or the specialised dietary needs of animals with a range of illnesses. The use of such diets over the past decades likely accounts for the increased health and longevity of companion animals. *ABSURD*
- These commercial diets are based on extensive research, performed both 'in-house' and in collaboration with veterinary schools. Much of this research is published in the peer-reviewed scientific literature. By contrast, there is no scientific evidence base to support the benefits of feeding raw meat and bones. *FALSE+ SEE RAW MEATY BONES: PROMOTE HEALTH*
- Dogs and cats may be fed with home-prepared 'natural diets', but it is difficult to achieve the optimum balance of requisite nutrients in this fashion. *RMB FED PETS THRIVE, A PROCESSION OF JUNK FOOD FED PETS VISIT THE VET*
- The feeding of raw meat and bones to companion animals carries particular risks, including infection with pathogenic bacteria associated with uncooked meats (e.g. Salmonella, Campylobacter) and injury (e.g. intestinal perforation) caused by bone fragments. The BSAVA (the BVA's relevant specialist division) advises against the feeding of raw meat or bones to companion animals for this reason. *TRUE - THEY SINK VERY LOW*
- The RMB lobby proposes that the feeding of bones is beneficial to oral health (teeth and gums). Similar benefits may be achieved by feeding of purpose designed kibble food or dental chews, without the attendant risk of damage (e.g. fractures) of the teeth. *ESSENTIAL!*

FALSE

FALSE -
COOKED
GRAIN FOR
CARNIVORES?

TRUE -
VET PROFESSION
PROSTITUTES
ITSELF

FALSE

SCAREMONGERING
DISINFORMATION

DISGRACEFUL
DISINFORMATION

BVA PRESIDENT

Main Contacts

BVA: Dr Freda Scott-Park
BSAVA: Mark Johnston

PFMA: Nicole Harrison
20 Bedford Street, London, WC2E 9HP
Tel: (020 7379 9009)
Fax: (020 7379 8008)
Email: nicole@pfma.org.uk

BVA Press Office:

Chrissie Nicholls
E: chrissien@bva.co.uk
Nadin Sajakow
E: nadins@bva.co.uk
Helena Cotton
E: helenac@bva.co.uk
T: 0207 636 6541
Out of hours: 07810 433 730
07929 620 325

WOULD THE
BRITISH MEDICAL
ASSOCIATION
CONSPIRE WITH
MARS, NESTLÉ
AND CO TO
PROMOTE JUNK?

MARS
NESTLÉ
COLGATE-PALMOLIVE
PROCTER & GAMBLE
AND OTHERS

Additional Resources

- Pet Food Manufacturers Association Information Paper on Raw Meat and Bones Discussions. PFMA, January 2005. *SEE FULL TEXT AT [WWW.UKRMB.CO.UK](http://www.ukrmb.co.uk)*

Pets & pet owners deserve better

STOP CRUEL ALLIANCE