**GASTRO-INTESTINAL LOW FAT**

**Nutrition in dogs with digestive disorders**

**The recommended diet**

Your veterinary surgeon will advise you when to begin to feed a highly digestible bland diet. Small, frequent meals will reduce the workload on the intestines by reducing the volume of food that the intestines receive at any one time.

Feeding the correct diet is crucial for the nutritional management of dogs with digestive tract disorders. Everyone who comes into contact with your dog should realise the importance of feeding only the recommended diet. This means avoiding all treats or snacks.

Many diseases and digestive disorders can cause a lack of interest in food. Because of this, a special diet must not only benefit health but must taste good too. Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet is designed for your dog’s special needs. It is available only from your veterinary practice. It should be the sole source of food unless otherwise indicated by your veterinary surgeon.

**Changing your pet’s diet**

Changing your pet’s diet should always be carried out over several days. It is not uncommon for pets to refuse a new diet or to suffer from stomach upsets if the change is not gradual. On day 1, begin by adding a small amount of the new diet to your pet’s existing food. As each day passes, add more of the new diet to less of the original food, until eventually you are only feeding the new diet. This change should take around 5 days.

Royal Canin are leaders in palatability. So confident are we that your pet will enjoy his food that we offer a no quibble, money-back guarantee. Simply return the food to your veterinary practice for a full refund.

**A specific diet for your pet**

The two most common signs associated with disturbances of the gastrointestinal tract are vomiting and diarrhea.

Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet provides nutritional support in the nutritional management of dogs with:

- Acute and chronic diarrhea
- Chronic pancreatitis and convalescence from acute pancreatitis
- Exocrine pancreatic insufficiency

**Key features**

The key features of Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet are:

- Restricted levels of highly digestible fat
- High quality, highly digestible protein
- Highly digestible carbohydrates
- Lactose- and wheat gluten-free
- Enhanced levels of B - complex vitamins
- Enhanced zinc and copper content

**Antioxidants**

Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet is enriched in antioxidants (vitamin E, vitamin C, taurine and lutein) to help maintain health and vitality.

Antioxidant is a general term for different types of nutrients such as vitamins, minerals and other components naturally present in many foods. Antioxidants neutralise the free radicals produced even during normal body metabolism.

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**Nutrition in dogs with digestive disorders**

**Answers to your questions**

**How does Royal Canin Canine Digestive Low Fat diet meet the specific needs of my dog?**

Nutritional support plays a key role in the management of gastrointestinal disease. Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet is formulated to:
- Provide adequate nutrition despite reduced absorption of nutrients
- Help reduce the severity of diarrhoea
- Provide nutrients essential to help support regeneration

To achieve this, Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat contains highly digestible protein and carbohydrate, and a reduced level of highly digestible fat. The diet is enriched with zinc, copper, B-complex vitamins and antioxidants.

**My dog is affected by ‘acute diarrhoea’. What does this mean?**

Your dog is affected by acute diarrhoea when the normal digestive processes are disturbed. Water and nutrients are not efficiently absorbed from the intestinal tract into the body; this results in large volumes of diarrhoea. Dogs with severe diarrhoea are at risk of becoming dehydrated due to this loss of fluid. Vomiting, if present, results in more fluid loss.

Your veterinary surgeon will advise you when to begin to feed with Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet. This highly digestible, ‘bland’ diet allows the intestine to easily digest and absorb the essential nutrients and energy needed by your dog.

**My vet told me that my dog is affected by ‘Exocrine Pancreatic Insufficiency’. I would like to know more about this condition.**

The pancreas lies in close proximity to the stomach and is important for the production of the hormone insulin (for glucose absorption) and pancreatic enzymes. Pancreatic enzymes are important for the digestion of nutrients, including fats. Some dogs are only able to produce small amounts of pancreatic enzymes and so suffer from a reduced ability to digest nutrients, especially fats. Dogs with EPI are often underweight because of impaired nutrient digestion and absorption.

Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet provides a restricted amount of highly digestible fats, and fulfills all the dog's needs for essential fatty acids, other nutrients and energy.

**What does ‘lactose-free’ mean?**

Lactose is a milk protein and intolerance to lactose is a common food intolerance which occurs in both dogs and cats. It usually results in diarrhoea. The levels of lactase, the enzyme needed to digest lactose, fall after weaning. If milk is fed to adult dogs and cats, undigested lactose remaining within the small intestine can cause digestive disorders.

Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet does not contain lactose, so avoiding this problem.

**What does ‘wheat gluten-free’ mean?**

Wheat gluten is a cereal protein sometimes associated with food sensitivity (food ‘allergy’) in dogs.

Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet does not contain wheat gluten.

**What is an enzyme?**

Enzymes are ‘chemical scissors’ which break down all nutrients eaten by the dog into particles small enough to be absorbed into the body and used for vital functions. Pancreatic enzymes are needed for digestion of fats.

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**Key benefits**

Royal Canin Gastro-Intestinal Low Fat diet has special ingredients to meet the specific needs of your pet.

- **LOW FAT**: A low fat concentration helps support digestive function in dogs with hyperlipidaemia or with acute pancreatitis.

- **LOW FIBRE**: The low fibre content helps support high digestibility and nutrient absorption.

- **HIGH DIGESTIBILITY**: Highly digestible carbohydrates compensate for the decreased enzymatic performance in the intestinal brush border.

- **DIGESTIVE SECURITY**: Intake of beet pulp, Mannan-Oligo-Saccharides (MOS) and Fructo-Oligo-Saccharides (FOS) help restore the colonic ecosystem promoting the growth of beneficial gut bacteria (‘friendly’ bacteria).

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**Additional Information:**

If you have further questions, please contact your veterinary practice:

**Next Visit:**