CONVALESCE NCENCE SUPPORT

Nutrition for pets during convalescence

The recommended diet

Royal Canin Convalescence Support diets are designed to fulfil your pet’s nutritional needs and are available only from your veterinary practice. They should be fed as advised by your veterinary surgeon. It is usually advisable to feed on a little-and-often basis, dividing the daily amount into two to five small meals a day.

Your pet should always have clean fresh drinking water available. If your pet’s condition restricts his ability or desire to move, you may need to take special care to ensure that he has access to water.

How do I prepare Convalescence Support Instant diet?
Royal Canin Convalescence Support Instant diet is a powder which mixes easily with warm water. Stir the contents of one sachet into warm previously boiled water (50°C), until it forms a liquid suspension. Allow the mixture to stand for one minute and then stir or whisk again before use. Once prepared Royal Canin Convalescence Support Instant diet can be stored in a refrigerator for up to 24 hours. Warm to body temperature before feeding. The diet can also be sprinkled directly onto your pet’s food to help increase their energy intake without increasing volume. This can be particularly helpful in pregnant or lactating bitches and queens.

Definitions

Proteins
Proteins are the major building blocks in the repair process and are important in maintaining the immune system, which helps your pet to fight infection. Protein requirements of the convalescing pet are usually higher than for the normal, healthy pet.

Fats and Carbohydrates
Fats and carbohydrates are excellent sources of energy. Energy is needed in larger amounts than normal for repairing the tissues affected by illness, injury or surgery and to help fight infection. Increasing the fat level of the diet provides a more ‘concentrated’ food, so your pet can receive the higher levels of energy and nutrients needed in a smaller amount of food.

Minerals and Vitamins
Certain minerals and vitamins are important in the healing process. Diets designed for convalescence must have the correct balance of minerals and vitamins to avoid the depletion of body stores and provide those needed for the period of recovery.

A specific diet for your pet

Royal Canin Convalescence Support diets are formulated to provide nutritional support for the debilitated, stressed or traumatised animal or for those with high energy needs. They can be used in the following circumstances:

- Anorexia
- Malnutrition
- Inability to eat due to mouth or throat problems
- Stress following surgery, injury or ill health
- Pregnancy, lactation, growth

The Royal Canin Convalescence Support diets are available as powder and canned for canine patients, and powder and pouch for feline patients.

Key features

The key features of Royal Canin Convalescence Support diets are:

- Concentrated nutrition, so allowing small feeding volumes
- Highly palatable and digestible
- Supplemented with B-complex vitamins
- Enriched with an optimum antioxidant complex

Antioxidants

Royal Canin Convalescence support canned, pouch and instant diets are enriched in antioxidants (vitamin E, vitamin C, taurine, lutein) to help support health in convalescing pets.

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

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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.

“Royal Canin Convalescence Support diet is such a highly valuable source of energy for a pet!”

Key benefits

Royal Canin Convalescence Support diet has special ingredients to meet the specific needs of your pet.

- **An increased protein level helps promote restoration of lean body mass, improves palatability during the post-operative period and avoids detrimental effect on immunity caused by protein deficiency.**

- **The high energy concentration enables small meal volumes and a reduced workload on the intestine. Provides the energy needed for convalescent pets.**

- **Antioxidant complex (vitamin E, vitamin C, taurine and lutein) neutralises free radicals, helping support the health of cells, DNA and the immune system.**

- **Highly digestible ingredients to compensate for the decreased activity of intestinal enzymes, ensuring an optimal nutrient supply.**

Answers to your questions

**Why should I give my pet a specific diet?**

Good nutrition is especially important for a pet which has been ill, injured, had an operation or not eaten for several days. Feeding with Royal Canin Convalescence Support diets at this time will help provide the additional energy needed by a convalescing pet, when wound healing is taking place and the pet needs extra support to help fight infection. Supplying high quality nutrients (protein, fats, minerals and vitamins) in the right amounts also prevents the body from using its own important tissues as energy sources during this time of stress.

**Does my pet need specific care for convalescence?**

During recovery your pet may feel weak and tire easily. She/he will probably spend more time than usual resting or sleeping which helps to conserve energy and mend tissues while the body is getting back to normal. You may have to give medicines, keep an eye on any wounds or look after bandages.

During the convalescent period. Nutrition and feeding are especially important. You may have to encourage your pet to eat. The extra care you give him at this time will help him recover. For example, feeding by hand.

**My pet doesn’t want to eat, what should I do?**

A concentrated diet such as Royal Canin Convalescence Support is important for a pet that has a decreased appetite, ensuring that he receives all the nutrients needed, even when eating less than normal. Royal Canin Convalescence Support diets are specially formulated to be particularly palatable so that an unwell pet is tempted to eat; however, you may still have to help and encourage your pet. The following tips may be helpful:

- Feed little and often, dividing the daily allowance of food into two to five small meals of fresh food.
- Warm food gently to just below body temperature.
- Leave the food down for your pet for about 10 to 15 minutes, and then remove it if your pet is no longer interested. Your pet is more likely to eat fresh food offered later on.
- Use a small feeding bowl or saucer
- Try offering food by hand.

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

Additional Information:

Next Visit: