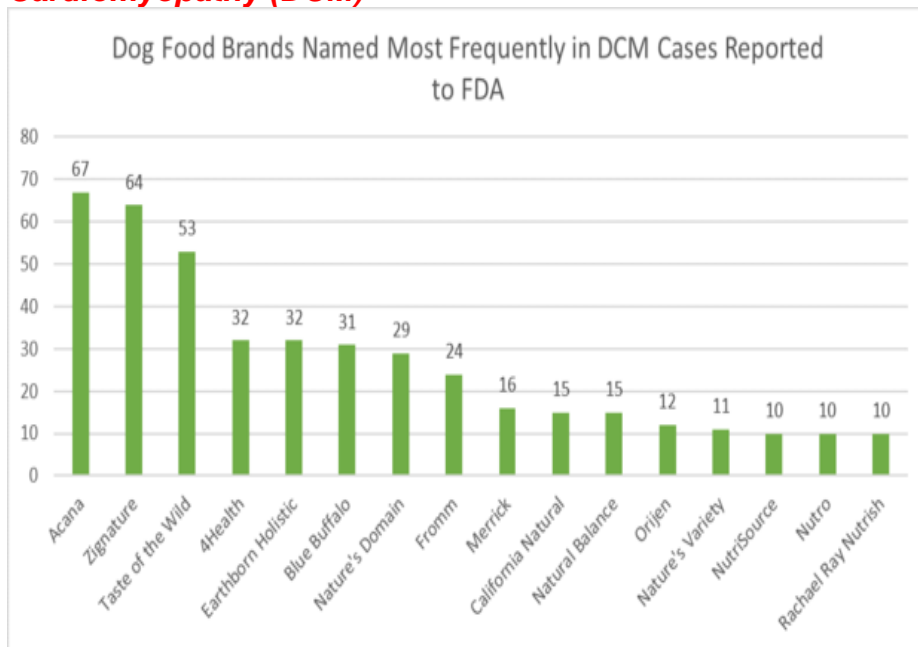




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IS YOUR DOG ON A GRAIN-FREE DOG FOOD DIET?

FDA has investigated more than 500 cases and identified a possible link between grain-free dog food and Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM)



Brands Affected

1. Acana
2. Zignature
3. Taste of the Wild
4. 4Health
5. Earthborn Holistic
6. Blue Buffalo
7. Natures Domain
8. Fromm
9. Merrick
10. California Natural
11. Natural Balance
12. Orijen
13. Natures Variety
14. NutriSource
15. Nutro
16. Rachael Ray Nutrish

Animal numbers in DCM Reports received between January 1, 2014 and April 30, 2019

	Number of reports	Number of animals affected	Number of deaths
Dogs	515	560	119
Cats*	9	14	5

possible signs of DCM:

- decreased energy
- cough
- difficulty breathing
- episodes of collapse

contact us as soon as possible if your dog shows any of the above signs.



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What is Dilated Cardiomyopathy (DCM)

DCM is a disease of the heart muscle that results in weakened contractions and poor pumping ability. As the disease progresses the heart chambers become enlarged, one or more valves may leak, and signs of congestive heart failure develop.

As the heart's pumping ability worsens, blood pressure starts to increase in the veins behind one or both sides of the heart. Lung (pulmonary) congestion and fluid accumulation (edema) often develop behind the left ventricle/atrium.

Signs of Heart Failure:

- Reduced exercise ability
- Tiring quickly
- Increased breathing rate
- Sometimes the cough seems soft, like the dog is clearing its throat
- Sudden weakness
- Fainting
- Abdominal enlargement

How is DCM Diagnosed:

- A Cardiac exam
- Chest X-rays
- Blood workup

Treatment:

These Meds are used to slow the progression of DCM:

- Tailored to each patient
- Use ACE Inhibitor (i.e. enalapril)
- Lasix
- Bronchodilator
- Diet designed specifically for heart disease
- Other medications as needed

If you have fed a grain-free diet or continue to feed a grain-free you need to schedule a cardiac workup appointment. If we detect problems early, we can possibly minimize the effect and slow the progression before it is too late.

Call 405-728-1678.